SATURDAY
August 3, 2024

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CRUCIAL ROLE

**Governor should act as a bridge: PM**

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ISS MISSION

**India names two crew members**

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**Set up a 'neutral panel' for negotiations: SC**

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WAY FORWARD

***Guidelines to get China-India ties on stable track***

*Chinese Ambassador Xu lists 'five mutuals'*

EDITORIAL » PAGE 12

TRAILBLAZER

**Lakshya enters last four, makes history**

SPORT » PAGE 20

# Search continues amid fading hope in Wayanad

**E.M. Manoj**
KALPETTA

**Sustained efforts:** The Army's Engineer Task Force personnel conduct a rescue operation in Wayanad on Friday. ANI

Joint teams of the Army, State police, National Disaster Response Force, Coast Guard, and volunteers scoured the landslide-devastated Chooralmala, Mundakkai, and Attamala localities of Wayanad for survivors, as search and rescue operations entered the fourth day on Friday.

The laborious, and often dangerous work, seemed to enter a new phase as rescuers and officials quietly acknowledged that the possibility of finding survivors remained remote, as operations continued amid the expansive and muddy field of mangled bodies, displaced boulders, uprooted trees, and collapsed houses.

Friday's search yielded 14 more bodies.

The government put the official death toll at 210 – 96 men, 85 women and 29 children – with 146 of them being identified by families.

Over 134 body parts were retrieved by Friday evening.

Local hospitals have been treating 273 persons admitted since July 30. The government has housed hundreds more in nine relief camps.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14
DEATH RAINS ON WAYANAD
» PAGE 13

## The two tales of survival that lifted morale

KALPETTA

In two tales of survival that kindled hope among rescuers in Wayanad, a tribal family, with three children, was rescued from a rock face by a forest team after a seven-km trek, and four members of a family were rescued from their surprisingly intact house near Chooralmala. » PAGE 11

# SC asks govt. to overhaul NEET-UG on a deadline

Top court pulls up NTA for lapses in conducting the test, directs committee led by ex-ISRO chief K. Radhakrishnan to submit to Centre its recommendations on restructuring the test by Sept. 30

**Krishnadas Rajagopal**
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday pronounced a scathing judgment calling out the "flip-flops" of the National Testing Agency (NTA) in the conduct of the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test, 2024 for admission to undergraduate medical courses, and put the government on a deadline to completely restructure the exam process.

"The manner in which NTA organised the exam this year gives rise to serious concerns... NTA has sufficient resources at its disposal. It has adequate funding, time, and opportunities to organise exams such as the NEET without lapses of the kind that occurred this year," Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, who authored the verdict, criticised the agency.

The three-judge Bench, headed by the Chief Justice, directed the Centre, acting through its high-powered committee headed by former Indian Space Research Organisation Chairperson K. Radhakrishnan, to recommend and implement top-to-bottom overhauling of the test process, including rectifying "serious security lapses", introduce data protection measures, periodic audits, surprise inspections of test centres, grievance redress mechanisms for students and foolproof logistics while specifically highlighting how question papers were transported in e-rickshaws for the May 5 test.

The court directed the Radhakrishnan committee to submit its report to the Education Ministry by September 30. The Ministry has to take a decision on the committee's recommendations within a month thereafter and implement the plan of action. The government has to file a compliance report in the court.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

### A test for NEET

Here are a few recommendations of the Supreme Court:

- Data protection measures, periodic audits, surprise inspections of test centres, grievance redress mechanisms, foolproof logistics
- Standard operating procedure detailing specific timelines for registration of candidates, changes to preferred cities, sealing of OMR sheets after handing them over to invigilators
- Comprehensive CCTV surveillance of test centres, including real-time monitoring
- Rigorous checks and balances at every stage from the setting of question papers to the declaration of the results
- Review of allotment of test centres

NEARBY

## NICE Road to have speed limit

BENGALURU
The city police have imposed a speed limit on NICE Road ranging from 80 kmph to 120 kmph, depending on the kind of vehicle. » Page 4

## Governor working as a 'puppet' of Centre, says CM

MYSURU
Upping his ante against Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot for issuing a show-cause notice over the alleged irregularities in the MUDA, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah accused him of working as a "puppet" of the Centre. » Page 10

PROPERTYPLUS » PAGE 6

## *End of a long wait*

**Great win:** Goalkeeper P.R. Sreejesh was in his element as India beat Australia 3-2 in a Pool B men's hockey match on Friday. India, which posted its first win over the Kookaburras in the Olympics since 1972, has made the quarterfinals as the second best team in the pool. AP (FULL REPORT: PAGE 19)

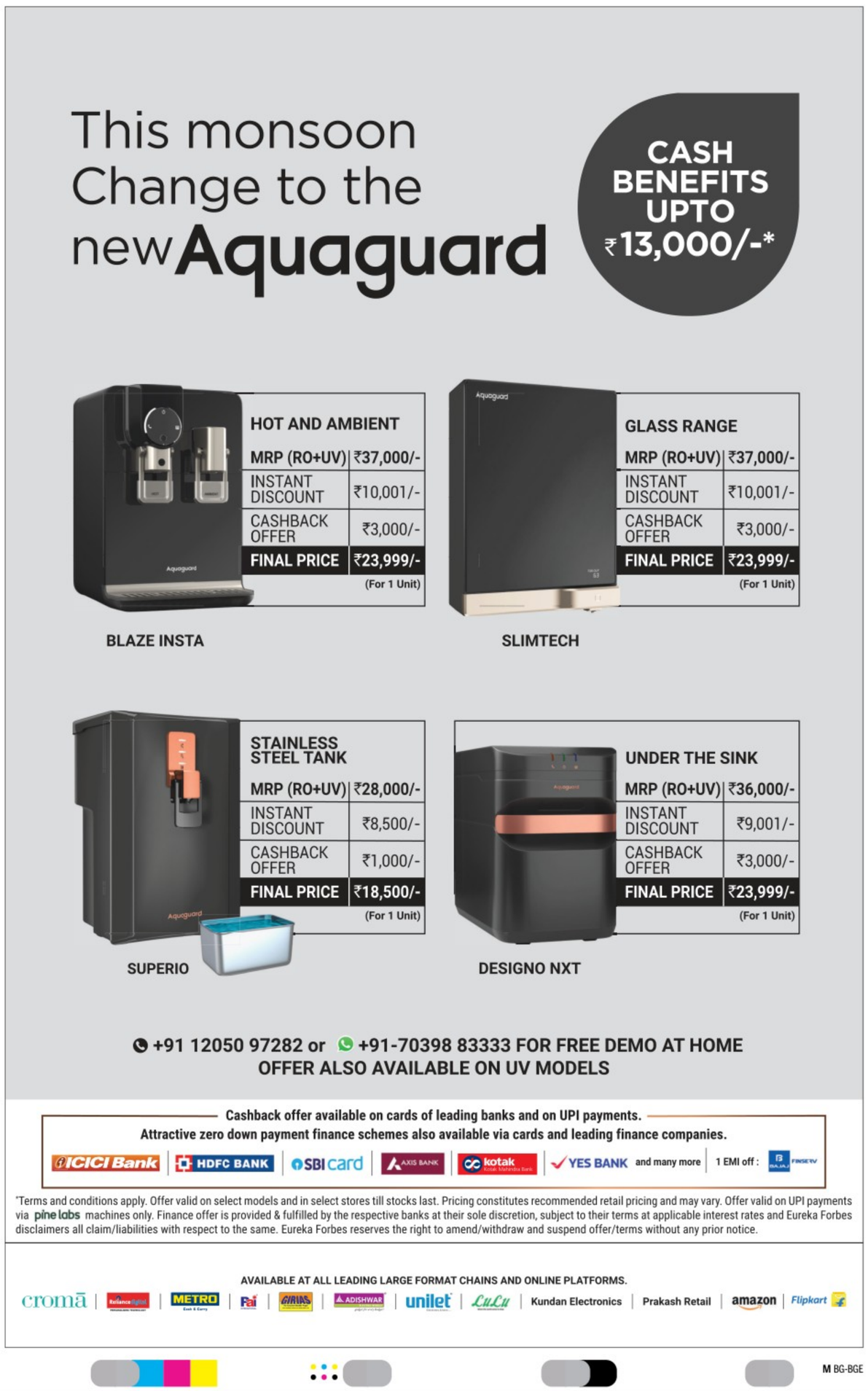
## Cong. moves privilege notice over Shah's speech

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

Citing *The Hindu*'s fact-check on Home Minister Amit Shah's speech in Parliament on the landslides in Wayanad, the Congress has moved a privilege motion in the Rajya Sabha against him for misleading the House.

Congress chief whip in the Rajya Sabha Jairam Ramesh wrote to Chairman of the Upper House Jagdeep Dhankhar citing *The Hindu* report, which, he said, shows that Mr. Shah's "emphatic statements on early warnings issued by the Union government have been proven to be false".

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14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## 72% of assessees opted for new tax regime in 2023-24

**Vikas Dhoot**
NEW DELHI

Most of India's personal income-tax payers have moved to the simpler new tax regime in the financial year 2023-24, with 72% of those who had filed their returns opting for it, even as the number of Income Tax (I-T) return filings rose 7.5% to hit a record high of almost 7.29 crore.

"Out of the total ITRs [I-T returns] of 7.28 crore filed for Assessment Year 2024-25, 5.27 crore have been filed in the new tax regime compared to 2.01 crore ITRs filed in the old tax regime," the Central Board of Direct Taxes said on Friday, terming the increase in number of taxpayers under the new tax regime "heartening".

The switchover has likely been expedited by significant changes in the new tax regime. Apart from making the new system "the default tax regime", Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had slashed the tax rate slabs to five from six and raised the tax-free income limit to ₹3 lakh from ₹2.5 lakh.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

## BBMP to revoke trade licences for any discriminatory acts

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has issued an order mandating the cancellation of trade licences for any commercial establishment or shop found discriminating against visitors or customers based on language, caste, religion, dress, or nativity.

This directive comes in response to a recent incident where a farmer was denied entry to a mall as he was wearing a dhoti.

This order follows a statement by Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar, who, following the outrage over the incident in the recently concluded legislature session, announced that the government would introduce guidelines to prevent incidents of such discrimination.

Chief Civic Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath emphasised in the order that trade licences will be revoked, and criminal cases will be booked under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita if any establishment is found to be discriminating among its patrons.

GETTY IMAGES

Joe Root
(Age 21 to 33)

| | |
|---|---|
| Tests | 143 |
| Inns | 261 |
| Not outs | 21 |
| Runs | 12,027 |
| Avg. | 50.11 |
| 100s | 32 |
| Career span | 11 years, 7 months (Dec 2012-Jul 2024) |
| Tests per year | 12.35 |
| Runs per Test | 84.10 |
| Runs per year | 1038.30 |

Sachin Tendulkar
(Age 16 to 40)

| | |
|---|---|
| Tests | 200 |
| Inns | 329 |
| Not outs | 33 |
| Runs | 15,921 |
| Avg. | 53.78 |
| 100s | 51 |
| Career span | 24 years (Nov 1989-Nov 2013) |
| Tests per year | 8.33 |
| Runs per Test | 79.61 |
| Runs per year | 663.38 |

# Does Joe Root have the legs to scale Mount Tendulkar?

Until recently, the Indian legend's rarefied heights were seen as too far up in the stratosphere for mortals to ascend. But a 33-year-old from Yorkshire, thanks to his unfussy progress and the sheer volume of Test cricket England plays, is within 3,894 runs of the ultimate peak

**K.C. Vijaya Kumar**

The name Charles Bannerman may not ring a bell. Neither would the relevance of a March day at Melbourne, way back in 1877. But for those invested in the classicism of Test cricket and for statisticians obsessed with numbers, March 15 of that year should have a resonance.

On that day, which ushered in cricket's inaugural Test, Australian opener Bannerman scored the first ever run in the game's longest format. He went on to score 165 before retiring hurt and the host eventually defeated rival England by 45 runs. Since those old days, cricket has grown and evolved, and also dealt with disruptions like the two World Wars and the recent COVID-19 pandemic.

Tests and the two limited-overs variants of ODIs and Twenty20Is presently co-exist, carving out distinct loyalties and granular commercial muscle. While results matter as they define the yardstick for judgement in a team sport, individual numbers offer relevance, trivia and also fuel obsessive fandom.

**Limbs may tire, form could evaporate, desire might wane, but still remember this, there is a possibility. That could fuel Root's hopes**

## Thrill of the chase

Readers of a certain vintage would have maintained a scrapbook, jotting down numbers stacked up by batters and bowlers. In the 1980s, it may have been a notepad with tables listed for Sunil Gavaskar, Vivian Richards, Javed Miandad, David Gower, Allan Border, Gordon Greenidge and Dilip Vengsarkar, with their individual scores in a Test noted down diligently, and then it would boil down to the whole thrill of finding out who was heading the batting race.

Gavaskar scaled 'Mount 10,000' with that dainty late cut of Pakistani spinner Ijaz Faqih at Ahmedabad in 1987. At that time it seemed too high a peak for anyone to scale again. It was presumed as being akin to Sir Don Bradman's Test average of 99.94, a miracle that perhaps will remain untouched for eternity.

But cricket always presses forward, building new forts, moving past old ones, and triggering debates about different eras. Gavaskar's world records, be it 10,122 Test runs or 34 centuries, eventually gave way to the modern stars even if it was his contemporary Border who first went past his Test tally.

Presently the Mumbai legend is placed 13th in the run-getters' list and is joint-sixth when it comes to hundreds. In both wings, a fellow Mumbaikar, Sachin Ramesh Tendulkar, reigns supreme with 15,921 runs and 51 tons. Again Tendulkar's numerical accomplishment is seen as a bridge too far to cross for batters, who have followed his path towards greatness.

## Change, the only constant

But then change is a constant and Tendulkar's record in ODIs – 49 centuries – had to cede territory to Virat Kohli's current tally of 50! But as for Tests, Tendulkar's rarefied heights are seen as too far up in the stratosphere for mortals to ascend. Yet, whispers have begun with an incredulous air about a Yorkshire man perhaps having Tendulkar in his sights.

At 33, Joe Root is still doing what he does best: accumulating runs. All this while staying under the radar, unlike the 'look at me' swag of a Kohli, the 'ain't I cute' aura of a Kane Williamson or the 'twitch and turn' hyperactivity of a Steve Smith. Against the West Indians, Root was among the runs, including a 122 at Nottingham's Trent Bridge.

Importantly, he now has 12,027 runs from 143 Tests, averaging 50.11, and with 32 hundreds to boot. He is 3,894 runs away from Tendulkar's peak and the fine print says much could change in the coming years. Limbs may tire, form could evaporate, desire might wane, but still remember this, there is a possibility. That could fuel Root's hopes, presuming he is thinking about it but not telling any of us.

The sporting 30s is seen as a senior citizen zone, when in real life, at that same age, men and women are still finding their way, be it careers, hearts, matrimony or the whole purpose of life. However, modern fitness and medical standards and the assistance of support staff ranging from physios to nutritionists have aided the greatest of sportspersons to keep that twilight zone hanging around for long.

Years ago, there was a time when South African Graeme Smith was making waves in his debut season. Runs were plundered at will and the usual 'Oh, will he chase down Sachin?' talk did the rounds. Sport is a combination of a set history, a twitchy present and a future abounding with surprises. Speculation about the new challenger was rife even when Tendulkar was the reigning god of the willows, despite Brian Lara, Ricky Ponting, Rahul Dravid and Jacques Kallis being his shadows.

There was also a phase when Imran Khan, just to perhaps inspire Inzamam-ul-Haq, said that the latter is a better player than Tendulkar. But Smith was seen as being cut from a different cloth and it so happened that Tendulkar was training at Bengaluru's Chinnaswamy Stadium.

It was a day with its slivers of sun, puffs of clouds and birdsong from Cubbon Park, but the maestro was in his zen mode, striking the ball both with care and vigour. Once the nets concluded and the sweat dried, Tendulkar began to stride towards the pavilion. A few scribes walked beside him and one television presenter asked the legend: "So Sachin, what do you think about Graeme Smith?"

Tendulkar paused, a half-smile creasing his face, forehead wrinkled in thought, and then said: "He looks good, is scoring runs but we have to wait a bit, we have to give him some time". This was a man speaking after deep introspection and never was there a hint of envy.

## The dynamics of longevity

He was right too because players making a splash on debut often tend to struggle in their second and third seasons, as by then the bowlers have observed their flaws, which then get lashed with boiling oil and rough salt in full public glare. Smith, having retired in 2014, is now 17th on the list with a tally of 9,265.

Root has dealt with the vagaries of form, survived various Ashes battles, scored runs all over, against varying attacks and on diverse surfaces. He also has seemingly bolted well ahead of (Steve) Smith, Kohli and Williamson. Devoid of the pressures of captaincy, which is the preserve of Ben Stokes, Root can lengthen his career in the pursuit of runs and triumphs for England.

In the years ahead, there will be tussles with the Indians and Australians, tough rivals adept at flipping pressure. Additionally, Root has to keep his head clear on the approach he wants to follow. Coach Brendon McCullum's 'The horses should gallop all the time' instruction may not always sit easy.

Busy Root is from the obdurate soil of Yorkshire that in the past threw up a Geoffrey Boycott, who used to compete with Gavaskar for batting glory. It is delicious that decades down the line, the Yorkshire-Mumbai joust has pitted Root against Tendulkar's jaw-dropping Test runs. Bannerman, resting in his grave, would never have imagined what he has unleashed.

## STACKING UP

**ATP Men's Top 15**

| # | Player | Age | Points | Events |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Jannik Sinner | 22 | 9,570 | 18 |
| 2 | Novak Djokovic | 37 | 8,460 | 18 |
| 3 | Carlos Alcaraz | 21 | 8,130 | 17 |
| 4 | Alexander Zverev | 27 | 6,845 | 24 |
| 5 | Daniil Medvedev | 28 | 6,525 | 18 |
| 6 | Alex de Minaur | 25 | 4,185 | 24 |
| 7 | Hubert Hurkacz | 27 | 4,105 | 23 |
| 8 | Andrey Rublev | 26 | 3,885 | 24 |
| 9 | Casper Ruud | 25 | 3,880 | 23 |
| 10 | Grigor Dimitrov | 33 | 3,770 | 21 |
| 11 | Stefanos Tsitsipas | 25 | 3,705 | 24 |
| 12 | Taylor Fritz | 26 | 3,500 | 23 |
| 13 | Tommy Paul | 27 | 3,410 | 22 |
| 14 | Ben Shelton | 21 | 2,750 | 25 |
| 15 | Ugo Humbert | 26 | 2,405 | 28 |

Top Indians ▶

Sumit Nagal
Rank 75 ▲ 5 spots

Ramkumar Ramanathan
Rank 329 ▲ 2 spots

**WTA Women's Top 15**

| # | Player | Age | Points | Events |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Iga Swiatek | 23 | 11,005 | 17 |
| 2 | Coco Gauff | 20 | 8,173 | 18 |
| 3 | Aryna Sabalenka | 26 | 7,061 | 17 |
| 4 | Elena Rybakina | 25 | 6,376 | 19 |
| 5 | Jasmine Paolini | 28 | 5,373 | 23 |
| 6 | Jessica Pegula | 30 | 4,665 | 22 |
| 7 | Qinwen Zheng | 21 | 4,025 | 20 |
| 8 | Maria Sakkari | 29 | 3,925 | 24 |
| 9 | Danielle Collins | 30 | 3,702 | 20 |
| 10 | Barbora Krejcikova | 28 | 3,573 | 18 |
| 11 | Jelena Ostapenko | 27 | 3,418 | 23 |
| 12 | Daria Kasatkina | 27 | 3,283 | 23 |
| 13 | Liudmila Samsonova | 25 | 2,950 | 25 |
| 14 | Madison Keys | 29 | 2,878 | 16 |
| 15 | Emma Navarro | 23 | 2,729 | 27 |

Top Indians ▶

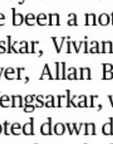
Ankita Raina
Rank 267 ▼ 9 spots

Sahaja Yamalapalli
Rank 310 ▼ 3 spots

**F1 Drivers' standings**

| # | Driver | Team | Points | Wins |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Max Verstappen | Red Bull | 277 | 7 |
| 2 | Lando Norris | McLaren | 199 | 1 |
| 3 | Charles Leclerc | Ferrari | 177 | 1 |
| 4 | Oscar Piastri | McLaren | 167 | 1 |
| 5 | Carlos Sainz | Ferrari | 162 | 1 |
| 6 | Lewis Hamilton | Mercedes | 150 | 2 |
| 7 | Sergio Perez | Red Bull | 131 | 0 |
| 8 | George Russell | Mercedes | 116 | 1 |
| 9 | Fernando Alonso | Aston Martin | 49 | 0 |
| 10 | Lance Stroll | Aston Martin | 24 | 0 |
| 11 | Nico Hulkenberg | Haas | 22 | 0 |
| 12 | Yuki Tsunoda | RB | 22 | 0 |
| 13 | Daniel Ricciardo | RB | 12 | 0 |
| 14 | Oliver Bearman | Ferrari | 6 | 0 |
| 15 | Pierre Gasly | Alpine | 6 | 0 |
| 16 | Kevin Magnussen | Haas | 5 | 0 |
| 17 | Esteban Ocon | Alpine | 5 | 0 |
| 18 | Alex Albon | Williams | 4 | 0 |
| 19 | Zhou Guanyu | Sauber | 0 | 0 |
| 20 | Valtteri Bottas | Sauber | 0 | 0 |

Max Verstappen



Lando Norris

**F1 Constructors' standings**

| Pos | Team | Points | Wins |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Red Bull | 408 | 7 |
| 2 | McLaren | 366 | 2 |
| 3 | Ferrari | 345 | 2 |
| 4 | Mercedes | 266 | 3 |
| 5 | Aston Martin | 73 | 0 |
| 6 | RB | 34 | 0 |
| 7 | Haas | 27 | 0 |
| 8 | Alpine | 11 | 0 |
| 9 | Williams | 4 | 0 |
| 10 | Sauber | 0 | 0 |

**Badminton Men's ranking**

| # | Player | Points | Events |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Shi Yu Qi | 102,415 | 16 |
| 2 | Viktor Axelsen | 89,290 | 14 |
| 3 | Anders Antonsen | 85,081 | 21 |
| 4 | Jonatan Christie | 83,097 | 17 |
| 5 | Kodai Naraoka | 82,597 | 19 |
| 6 | Li Shi Feng | 82,196 | 17 |
| 7 | Lee Zii Jia | 78,816 | 22 |
| 8 | Kunlavut Vitidsarn | 76,258 | 16 |
| 9 | Anthony Sinisuka Ginting | 70,485 | 17 |
| 10 | Kenta Nishimoto | 64,612 | 23 |
| 11 | Chou Tien Chen | 64,567 | 28 |
| 12 | Loh Kean Yew | 62,433 | 22 |
| 13 | Prannoy H. S. | 60,492 | 17 |
| 14 | Lu Guang Zu | 58,551 | 20 |
| 15 | Lin Chun-Yi | 58,501 | 29 |

Top Indians ▶

Prannoy H. S.
Rank 13

Lakshya Sen
Rank 22

**Badminton Women's ranking**

| # | Player | Points | Events |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | An Se Young | 109,817 | 14 |
| 2 | Chen Yu Fei | 104,282 | 16 |
| 3 | Tai Tzu Ying | 89,971 | 16 |
| 4 | Carolina Marin | 88,786 | 16 |
| 5 | Wang Zhi Yi | 83,215 | 19 |
| 6 | Akane Yamaguchi | 81,177 | 10 |
| 7 | Han Yue | 77,609 | 22 |
| 8 | Gregoria Mariska Tunjung | 72,762 | 20 |
| 9 | He Bing Jiao | 71,568 | 15 |
| 10 | Aya Ohori | 66,267 | 22 |
| 11 | Beiwen Zhang | 63,546 | 22 |
| 12 | Nozomi Okuhara | 62,911 | 22 |
| 13 | P.V. Sindhu | 59,782 | 14 |
| 14 | Busanan Ongbamrungphan | 58,440 | 24 |
| 15 | Zhang Yi Man | 58,294 | 17 |

Top Indians ▶

P.V. Sindhu
Rank 13

Aakarshi Kashyap
Rank 39

**Test Batting**

| # | Player | Rating | Career best |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Joe Root | 872 | 923 |
| 2 | Kane Williamson | 859 | 919 |
| 3 | Babar Azam | 768 | 882 |
| 3 | Daryl Mitchell | 768 | 804 |
| 5 | Steve Smith | 757 | 947 |
| 6 | Rohit Sharma | 751 | 813 |
| 7 | Harry Brook | 749 | 773 |
| 8 | Yashasvi Jaiswal | 740 | 740 |
| 9 | Dimuth Karunaratne | 739 | 783 |
| 10 | Virat Kohli | 737 | 937 |

**Test Bowling**

| # | Player | Rating | Career best |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | R. Ashwin | 870 | 904 |
| 2 | Josh Hazlewood | 847 | 864 |
| 2 | Jasprit Bumrah | 847 | 881 |
| 4 | Kagiso Rabada | 834 | 902 |
| 5 | Pat Cummins | 820 | 914 |
| 6 | Nathan Lyon | 801 | 801 |
| 7 | Ravindra Jadeja | 788 | 899 |
| 8 | Shaheen Afridi | 733 | 836 |
| 9 | Kyle Jamieson | 729 | 836 |
| 10 | Prabath Jayasuriya | 724 | 783 |

**ODI Batting**

| # | Player | Rating | Career best |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Babar Azam | 824 | 898 |
| 2 | Shubman Gill | 801 | 847 |
| 3 | Virat Kohli | 768 | 909 |
| 4 | Harry Tector | 746 | 767 |
| 4 | Rohit Sharma | 746 | 882 |
| 6 | Daryl Mitchell | 728 | 750 |
| 7 | David Warner | 723 | 869 |
| 8 | Pathum Nissanka | 711 | 728 |
| 9 | Dawid Malan | 707 | 730 |
| 10 | Rassie van der Dussen | 701 | 796 |

**ODI Bowling**

| # | Player | Rating | Career best |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Keshav Maharaj | 716 | 741 |
| 2 | Josh Hazlewood | 688 | 727 |
| 3 | Adam Zampa | 686 | 695 |
| 4 | Mohammed Siraj | 678 | 736 |
| 5 | Jasprit Bumrah | 665 | 838 |
| 6 | Bernard Scholtz | 657 | 657 |
| 7 | Mohammad Nabi | 656 | 657 |
| 8 | Shaheen Afridi | 650 | 688 |
| 9 | Kuldeep Yadav | 645 | 760 |
| 10 | Trent Boult | 643 | 775 |

**T20I Batting**

| # | Player | Rating | Career best |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Travis Head | 844 | 844 |
| 2 | Suryakumar Yadav | 805 | 910 |
| 3 | Philip Salt | 797 | 833 |
| 4 | Yashasvi Jaiswal | 757 | 779 |
| 5 | Babar Azam | 755 | 896 |
| 6 | Mohammad Rizwan | 746 | 875 |
| 7 | Jos Buttler | 716 | 720 |
| 8 | Ruturaj Gaikwad | 664 | 706 |
| 9 | Brandon King | 656 | 704 |
| 10 | Johnson Charles | 655 | 669 |

**T20I Bowling**

| # | Player | Rating | Career best |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Adil Rashid | 718 | 746 |
| 2 | Anrich Nortje | 675 | 695 |
| 3 | Rashid Khan | 668 | 816 |
| 4 | Wanindu Hasaranga | 663 | 797 |
| 5 | Josh Hazlewood | 662 | 806 |
| 6 | Akeal Hosein | 659 | 683 |
| 7 | Adam Zampa | 654 | 743 |
| 8 | Fazalhaq Farooqi | 645 | 692 |
| 9 | Maheesh Theekshana | 640 | 684 |
| 10 | Ravi Bishnoi | 635 | 699 |

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**UTTAR PRADESH** - *RAEBARELI
**UTTAR PRADESH** - *BALLIA
**UTTAR PRADESH** - MATHURA
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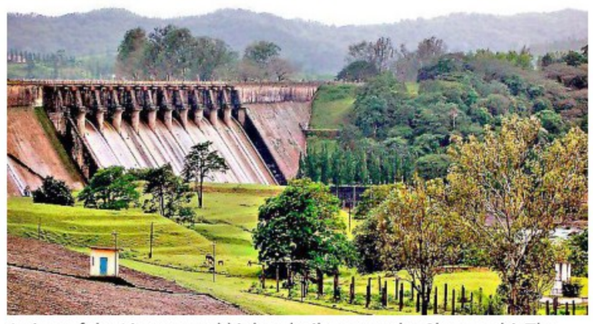
# CEA nod for DPR of Sharavathi pumped storage project

The proposed plant is poised to play a crucial role in the State's energy landscape, offering reliable solutions for balancing grid stability and meeting peak power demands: K.J. George



A view of the Linganamakki dam built across the Sharavathi. The proposed plant will leverage the existing Sharavathi river system to store and generate electricity efficiently. FILE PHOTO

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

After the clearance of legal hurdles, the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has approved the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the 2,000 megawatt (MW) Sharavathi Pumped Storage and Hydroelectric project in Shivamogga and Uttara Kannada districts. With this, the work on the project is expected to commence soon.

"The Sharavathi Hydro Pump Storage Plant is poised to play a crucial role in the State's energy landscape, offering a reliable solution for balancing grid stability and meeting peak power demands. With a substantial capacity of 2,000 MW, the plant will leverage the existing Sharavathi river system to store and generate electricity efficiently," Energy Minister K.J. George said on Friday.

Earlier this year, Karnataka Power Corporation Limited (KPCL) awarded the ₹8,005 crore tender for the project to Hyderabad-based infrastructure company Megha Engineering and Infrastructure Limited (MEIL). Soon after that, Larsen and Toubro Ltd (L&T), Mumbai had contended in court that only 21 days was provided for submitting bids for tender by the KPCL, whereas the minimum period of 30 days should be provided for tenders exceeding ₹2 crore as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurements Rules, 2000.

While a single judge had dismissed the company's contention, a Division Bench consisting of Chief Justice N.V. Anjaria and Justice Krishna S. Dixit had passed an interim order on March 11, keeping in abeyance all actions in respect of the tender and directed all parties to maintain status quo. In its final verdict passed on April 25, the High Court dismissed L&T's petition and ruled in favour of KPCL.

According to sources, MEIL will now continue the work on the project. "Pumped storage hydel power projects, like the Sharavathi Pump Storage Plant, are known for their flexibility in adapting to fluctuations in electricity demand. During low-demand periods, water is pumped from a lower reservoir to a higher one. When demand peaks, water from the upper reservoir is released to generate electricity, providing a reliable and efficient energy solution," said officials from the Energy Department.

## BBMP permission letters must to print flex, banners

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has issued an order mandating printers and other agencies to collect permission letters from the civic body before printing flex and banners. The order was issued by Chief Civic Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath on Friday.

The fresh order was passed on Friday in view of controlling the display of illegal flex and banners in the city and complying with the HC directions, BBMP sources said. The Karnataka HC had on July 12 *suo motu* initiated contempt of court proceedings against BBMP and City Police chiefs over rampant illegal hoardings in the city.

The fresh order comes days after BBMP and the police announced joint night patrol to identify and remove illegal flex, banners and hoardings in the city. Those wishing to display these have to get permission from the BBMP Chief Commissioner or Zonal Joint Commissioner. The same letter has to be furnished to the printers. The printers are now not allowed to print flex and banners if customers fail to provide a copy of the same. This condition is added under Sections 304 and 305 of the BBMP Act, 2020, as one of the conditions for the grant of a trade licence.

The printers/agencies also have to keep a copy of the letter. They should furnish the copy during routine BBMP inspections. Any violation makes the printer liable for action under the BBMP Act, 2020 and other applicable laws.

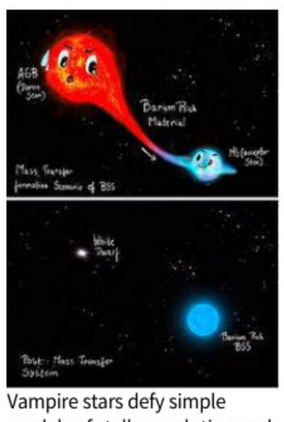
The BBMP has also banned plastic flexes. The BBMP now levies a penalty up to ₹2 lakh for violation of the law.

## 'Vampire star' discovered

**Hemanth C.S.**
BENGALURU

A team of astronomers from the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) have discovered that a vampire star has been rejuvenating its youth by sucking up material from a companion in the star cluster M67 located in the constellation Cancer.

Vampire stars, known as blue straggler stars (BSS), defy simple models of stellar evolution and show many characteristics of younger stars. "This anomalous youth is explained theoretically as due to rejuvenation by eating up material from a binary stellar companion. Star clusters are useful testbeds for this theory as they host a large number of binary stars, some of which can lead to the formation of BSS. Rejuvenated, these stars follow a different path of evolution compared to Sun-like single stars. So far, detection of sucked-up material along with the sighting of their remnant binary companion was elusive," said the Department of Science and Technology.




Vampire stars defy simple models of stellar evolution and display characteristics of younger stars. PHOTO: PIB

However, recently, a team from IIA made a groundbreaking discovery of a vampire star in M67 that sheds light via a complex rejuvenation process known as mass transfer in a binary system. The key to this detection was data from the UltraViolet Imaging Telescope on board AstroSat, India's first dedicated space observatory. The scientists studied the surface composition of the vampire star in M67, called WOCS 9005, using spectroscopy, in which the light of the star is dispersed into its colors like the rainbow.

"This star is expected to show chemistry similar to our Sun, but we found that its atmosphere is rich in heavy elements such as barium, yttrium, and lanthanum," said Harshit Pal, the lead author of the paper.

"The presence of heavy elements in the spectrum pointed to a polluted atmosphere of the star and the source of pollution being external. The source is likely to be its binary companion, which must have made the heavy elements when it passed through its AGB phase, and later became a white dwarf star", said Prof. Annapurni Subramaniam, co-author of the paper and Director IIA.

## BBMP to send 225 pourakarmikas on a study tour to Singapore

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) announced that it would send 225 senior pourakarmikas on a short trip to Singapore to expose them to the best international practices.

The selection will be based on experience, with funding provided by the Social Welfare and Urban Development Departments. Pourakarmikas from other municipal corporations will also participate in the tour.

This initiative, which started around seven years ago, aims to enhance urban hygiene and cleanliness by exposing pourakarmikas to best international practices. It also seeks to inspire behavioural changes and encourage them to become cleanliness ambassadors in their communities.

To date, about 600 cleanliness staff have participated in the study tour to Singapore. However, the programme was paused last year due to passport issues. "The resumption of these tours underscores the BBMP's commitment to improving city sanitation by equipping its workforce with global insights and techniques. This initiative is expected to bolster the ongoing efforts to maintain and elevate the standards of cleanliness in Bengaluru," BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said.

The BBMP employs around 20,000 pourakarmikas who maintain approximately 14,000 km of city streets, handling tasks such as sweeping dry leaves and addressing garbage blackspots.

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06.53 / 06.55 A / D RAICHUR A / D 20.45 / 20.47
07.08 / 07.10 A / D MANTRALAYAM ROAD A / D 20.15 / 20.16
08.25 / 08.30 A / D GUNTAKAL A / D 19.00 / 19.05
09.28 / 09.30 A / D ANANTAPUR A / D 17.58 / 18.00
12.45 / 12.47 A / D YELAHANKA A / D 15.08 / 15.10
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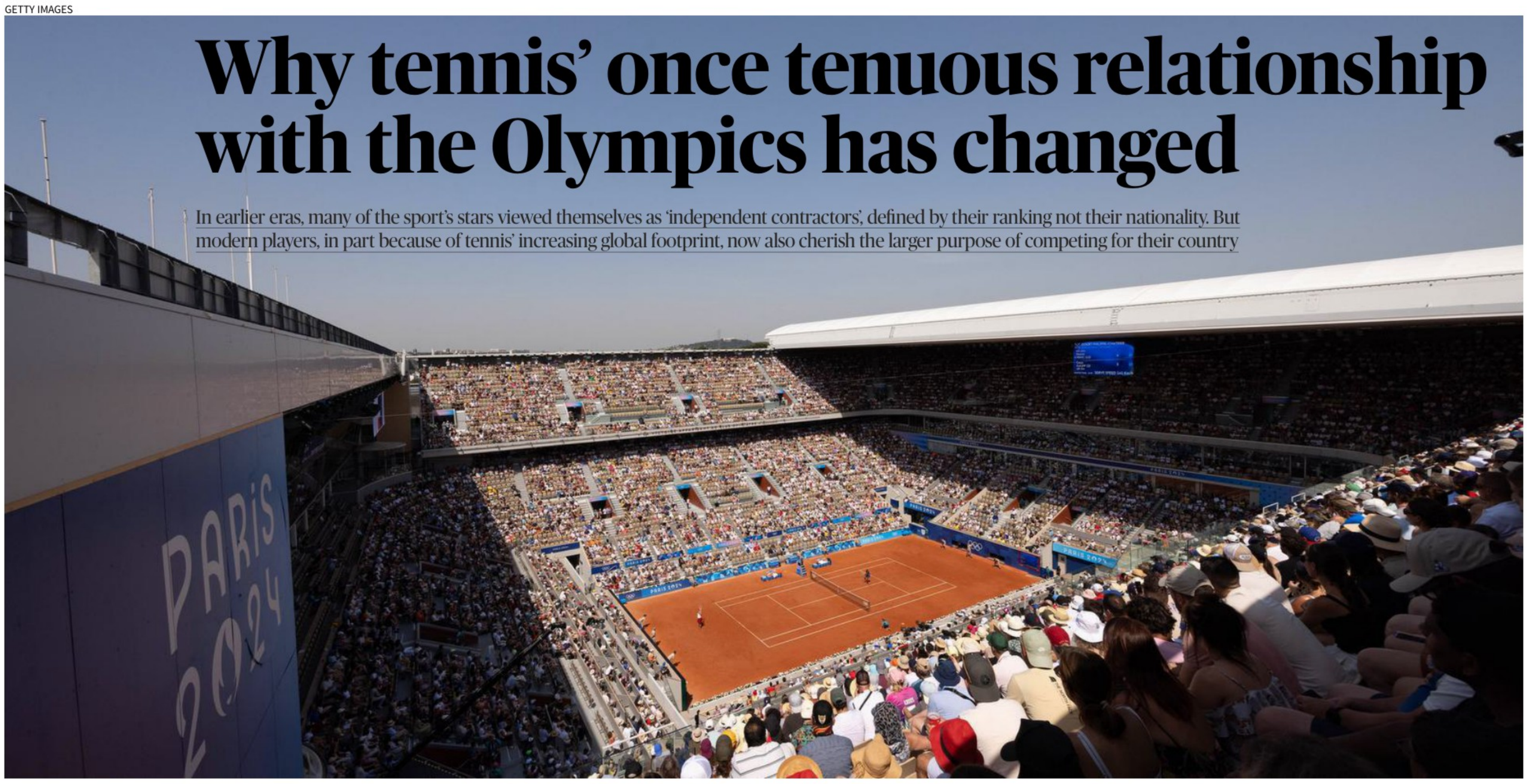



# Why tennis' once tenuous relationship with the Olympics has changed

In earlier eras, many of the sport's stars viewed themselves as 'independent contractors', defined by their ranking not their nationality. But modern players, in part because of tennis' increasing global footprint, now also cherish the larger purpose of competing for their country

**N. Sudarshan**

Among the most striking images from Paris 2024 have been those of the jam-packed stands at the iconic Roland-Garros. Seat of the second Major of the year, the French Open, it is now playing host to the Olympic tennis event for only the first time in its history.

The jamboree may be because of the star appeal. Five of the ATP's top-10, including four of the top-five, and eight of the WTA's top-10 featured in the draw in Paris.

And there is a special following for a battered Rafael Nadal willing himself through matches, a bruised Andy Murray escaping reality and hiding the timelessness of an athlete's struggle, and an ambitious Novak Djokovic looking to add that one singles gold medal which will make his the best CV in men's tennis history.

## Stark contrast

This is a far cry from the late 1980s and 1990s when tennis was reintroduced as a medal sport (in 1988) after a lengthy hiatus since 1924. Though the legendary Steffi Graf won the gold at Seoul 1988 and went on to complete the 'Golden Slam' (winning all four Majors and the Olympic gold in a single season), Stefan Edberg was the only notable name among men that year.

Pete Sampras, the best player of the 1990s, turned up only for Barcelona 1992, and that came when he had won none of his 14 Major titles. At Atlanta 1996, only three of the ATP's top-10 were present.

Fellow racquet sports, table tennis and badminton, made their debuts as official medal disciplines in 1988 and 1992 respectively, and in no time the Olympic gold became the ultimate honour in those sports. Tennis, in contrast, gave the greatest sporting extravaganza in the universe the cold shoulder. But not anymore. Tennis' once tenuous relationship with the Olympic movement has seemingly ceased and the two are now moving hand in hand. If Naomi Osaka lit the Olympic flame at Tokyo 2020, tennis had an outsized presence at the opening ceremony in Paris, with Nadal, Serena Williams and Amelie Mauresmo all being part of the torch relay.

> It's so special to be part of the oldest sports event in history. Winning a gold medal or any medal for my country is a great wish and desire. It is one of my greatest priorities
>
> **NOVAK DJOKOVIC**

The United States of America, which has no dearth of Olympic champions, gave debutant tennis player and World No. 2 Coco Gauff the pride of place, bestowing the opportunity to be the nation's flag-bearer alongside basketball legend LeBron James.

Nadal, injured for a good part of the last two years, skipped Wimbledon to get ready for the Olympics. Murray could have had a poetic farewell at home at Wimbledon, where he won two of his three Majors, but instead chose the Olympics as the finish line.

Djokovic, who has a singles bronze from Beijing 2008, braved a surgically repaired knee and a radical shift in surfaces – from clay to grass to clay, with the hard courts to follow – to go on a hunt for the singles gold.

## The duality of the sport

Tennis has long been characterised by a certain duality. Competitors prize themselves for being 'independent contractors', defined only by their ranking and not nationality.

Fan support has mirrored this, with allegiance more to the player than the country. Until Roger Federer retired, a ticket to his match was the most important possession. In recent years, the four Grand Slam tournaments – Australian Open, French Open, Wimbledon and US Open – have only grown in popularity and stature despite having a negligible percentage of home-grown winners.

But the sport has also been a vehicle for national identity and tribalistic fandom. In the Davis Cup and Billie Jean King Cup (erstwhile Fed Cup), tennis has two team competitions with decades-long history.

Sampras may have once famously said that winning Slams and staying No.1 were his priorities and that if he tried to play Davis Cup, "those other things will be in jeopardy", but for the smaller nations, Cup success is the ticket to worldwide stardom. As Vijay Amritraj has repeatedly stressed, wherever he played, even at the hallowed Wimbledon Centre Court, it was not he but always "an Indian" who was playing.

What we are seeing now is the shrinking of the space between these two divergent strands. The spirit of tennis is no longer torn between being global and being nationalistic but is comfortable in the skin of both.

This has been primarily driven by top players' changed approach towards the Olympic Games. They increasingly cherish the camaraderie and the larger purpose of competing for one's country rather than just the individual self.

"You can only play a match at the Olympics once every four years and it's a different feeling when you're wearing the outfit with the national colours," Angelique Kerber, a three-time Slam titlist, told *Vogue*.

It doesn't seem to matter that the Games offer no prize money. Ranking points, which were introduced at Sydney 2000, were removed ahead of Rio 2016. The Olympics also doesn't have an exclusive slot in the calendar.

## A prominent pit stop

Yet, the big stars of the game have made the Olympics a prominent pit stop, unmindful of the thousands of air miles to be clocked, geographies to be traversed and time zones to get adjusted to.

The last four singles gold medallists among men have been Nadal (Beijing 2008), Murray (London 2012 and Rio 2016) and Alexander Zverev (Tokyo 2020). Venus Williams won the gold at Sydney 2000, Justine Henin at Athens 2004 and Serena Williams at London 2012. Venus and Serena combined to secure back-to-back doubles gold medals in 2008 and 2012.

Jack Sock, who won the doubles bronze with Steve Johnson and mixed doubles gold with Bethanie Mattek-Sands at Rio 2016, said ahead of Tokyo 2020 that those two medals would be the first things he would show his kids.

"If you talk to the average person and you say you won the Madrid 1000, they will look at you like you're talking a different language," the American opined. "If you say you won a gold medal, they will know exactly what you mean."

The transformation may also be because of tennis' increasing global footprint. Australia, France, Great Britain and the United States were the early hegemonic forces and the championships in these countries form the four most important events in the calendar. Davis Cup, which began in 1900, gave players from these nations a taste of nationalistic flavour, and until 1974, there wasn't a Cup winner other than these four.

But the rise of central and eastern Europe, and Asia and the rest of the Americas, has democratised the scene and given a new dimension to tennis' relationship with nationalism. Russian Yevgeny Kafelnikov winning gold at Sydney 2000, Chile's Nicolas Massu at Athens 2004 and Puerto Rico's Monica Puig at Rio 2016 were examples of this. Djokovic, a demigod in Serbia, is desperate to be the next.

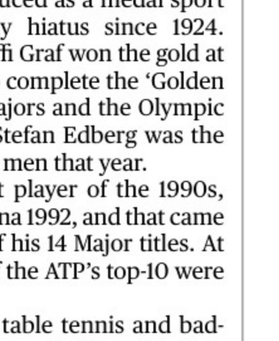
"I had the greatest honour of carrying the Serbian flag in the opening ceremony [London 2012]," Djokovic told itftennis.com in May. "It's so special to be part of the oldest sports event in history. Winning a gold medal or any medal for my country is a great wish and desire. It is one of my greatest priorities and goals."

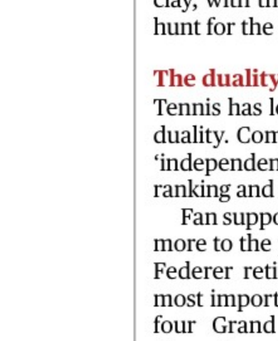
## GAME THEORY

### One-lap masters: F1's most prolific pole-sitters

Although Charles Leclerc's Belgian Grand Prix pole came in fortuitous circumstances — he was promoted a spot because of Max Vertsappen's 10-place grid penalty — it was more evidence of why he is rated so highly within F1. It was the Ferrari driver's 25th pole, many of them achieved without the fastest car on the grid. What's more, the only drivers with more poles than Leclerc are all world champions

| Driver | Poles | Race entries | Pole% |
|---|---|---|---|
| Lewis Hamilton | 104 | 346 | 30.06 |
| Michael Schumacher | 68 | 308 | 22.08 |
| Ayrton Senna | 65 | 162 | 40.12 |
| Sebastian Vettel | 57 | 300 | 19.00 |
| Max Verstappen | 40 | 199 | 20.10 |
| Jim Clark | 33 | 73 | 45.21 |
| Alain Prost | 33 | 202 | 16.34 |
| Nigel Mansell | 32 | 191 | 16.75 |
| Nico Rosberg | 30 | 206 | 14.56 |
| Juan Manuel Fangio | 29 | 52 | 55.77 |
| Mika Hakkinen | 26 | 165 | 15.76 |
| Charles Leclerc | 25 | 139 | 17.99 |
| Niki Lauda | 24 | 177 | 13.56 |
| Nelson Piquet | 24 | 207 | 11.59 |
| Fernando Alonso | 22 | 394 | 5.58 |
| Damon Hill | 20 | 122 | 16.39 |
| Valtteri Bottas | 20 | 237 | 8.44 |
| Mario Andretti | 18 | 131 | 13.74 |
| Rene Arnoux | 18 | 165 | 10.91 |
| Kimi Raikkonen | 18 | 353 | 5.10 |
| Jackie Stewart | 17 | 100 | 17.00 |
| Stirling Moss | 16 | 67 | 23.88 |
| Felipe Massa | 16 | 272 | 5.88 |
| Alberto Ascari | 14 | 33 | 42.42 |
| James Hunt | 14 | 93 | 15.05 |
| Ronnie Peterson | 14 | 123 | 11.38 |
| Rubens Barrichello | 14 | 326 | 4.29 |


LEWIS HAMILTON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CHARLES LECLERC

## PICTURE THIS

GETTY IMAGES

### Chequered past

A NASCAR driver takes the chequered flag at the recent Cup Series Brickyard 400 in Indianapolis.

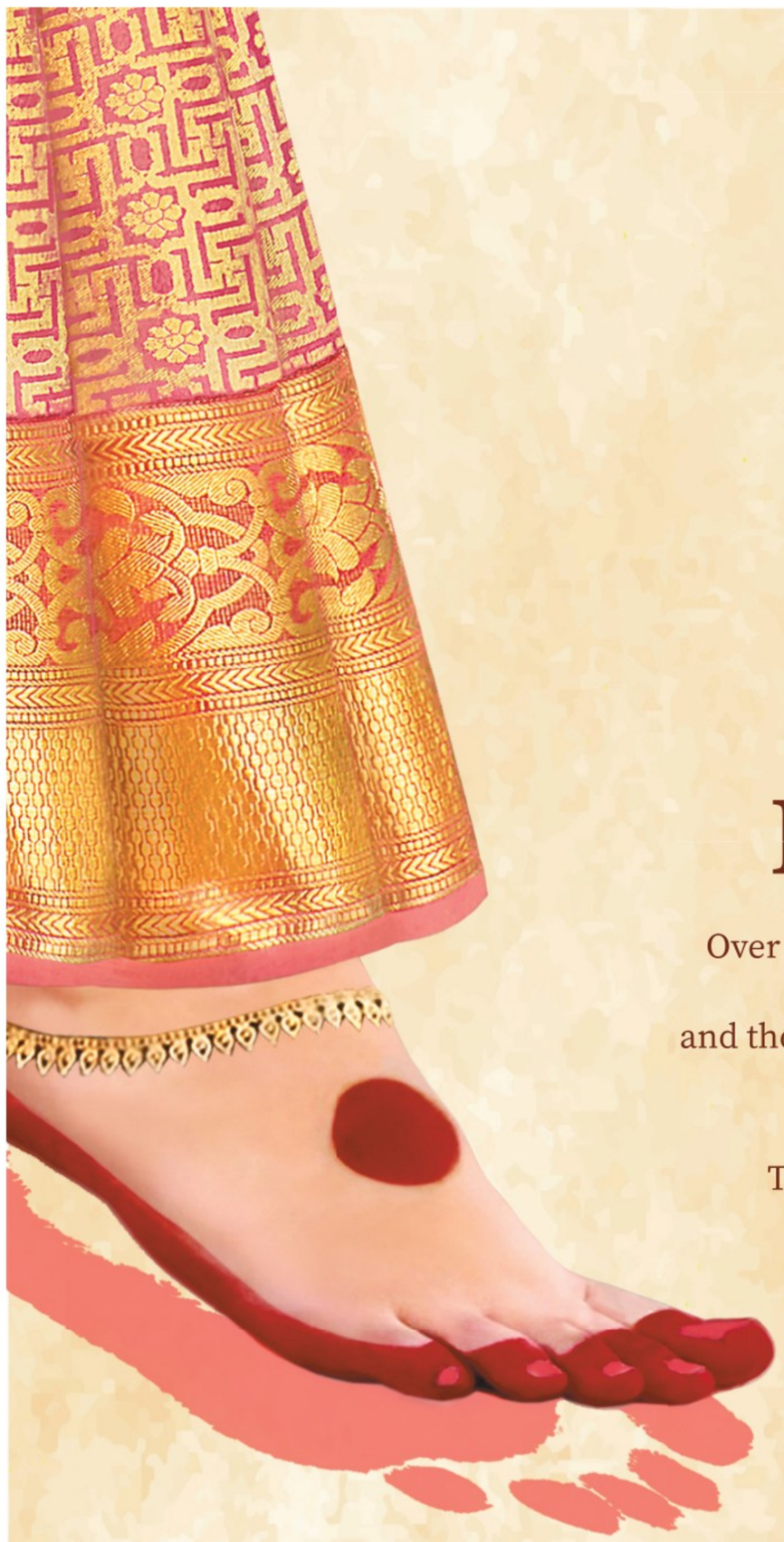
The iconic chequered flag signals that a race has officially finished. It is associated with the race winner, as they are the first to 'take it' i.e. drive past it.

In addition to denoting the race's end, the black-and-white flag also has a safety-facilitating role: once drivers see the chequered flag, they are required to slow down and return to the paddock or parc ferme, as per the regulations of the series.

The chequered flag has no standard design; both the number of alternating squares and the cloth's proportions vary from one to another.

The origins of the chequered flag aren't clear. It's believed that its roots can be traced to officials, or 'checkers', who stationed themselves at critical points along the course with flags. Another theory is that the idea came from an official wearing a black-and-white suit at the finish line.

There are also claims that the chequered flag predates motor racing, having been used in races involving horses and bicycles.



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# Timings of ban on movement of HGVs in city on Saturdays changed

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The change follows a shift in the peak hour timings. FILE PHOTO

Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) has modified the timings of restrictions on the movement of heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) on Saturdays owing to a change in the peak hours.

Until now, the movement of HGVs was prohibited from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. to ensure smooth flow of traffic in Bengaluru city. The modified regulations state that HGV movement will be prohibited between 10 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. and from 4.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturdays. The decision comes after a study by BTP showed that the peak hours on Saturday start later when compared to all other days. While traffic movement picks up from 7 a.m. and peaks between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. on weekdays, on Saturdays, it picks up around 9 a.m. and peaks around 1 p.m., the study revealed. "Peak hour usually starts after 11.30 a.m. on Saturdays. People tend to come out later than usual on Saturdays. Most schools have a holiday. Hence, the peak hour starts later. We will allow HGV movement between 2.30 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. In the evening, the peak hours are between 5 p.m. and 8.30 p.m.," said M.N. Anucheth, Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic), Bengaluru. He clarified that the timings of HGV movement will remain the same on other six days.

# Reconsider sports quota applications: KEA to Dept. of Youth Empowerment and Sports

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) has written to the Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports (DYE&S) to reconsider the applications of students who had sought to avail of sports quota for admissions to professional courses through the Common Entrance Test (CET) on Friday.

This follows several students and parents whose applications for the sports quota were rejected, objecting to the same.

According to KEA, of the 3,500 plus applications to avail sports quota, only 26 applications were cleared by DYE&S.

There are over 170 seats available under this quota this year.

According to the new sports policy by KEA, the students claiming sports quota seats must have participated at national/international level events in two out of three years (between classes 10 and 12).

But for this particular batch of students who have qualified in KCET-2024 and are aspiring for professional course seats under sports quota, there were no sports events held during 2021 and 2022 due to the pandemic.

Several organisers, including the School Games Federation of India (SGFI), conducted events for 2022-23 and 2023-24 together. Therefore, thousands of applications have been rejected this year.

"Due to the pandemic, many national sports events were held very late and often together for many years. Thus there were no sports events for two years.

"The Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports has cleared only 26 applications under the sports quota, even though there are 170 seats. This is an injustice to students seeking to use this quota," a parent rued.

# NICE Road to have speed limit; curbs imposed on two-wheelers at night

## The decision follows an increase in the number of accidents on the stretch

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

NICE Road reported 92 fatal accidents and 204 non-fatal ones between 2022 and June 2024. FILE PHOTO

The city police have imposed a speed limit on NICE Road ranging from 80 kmph to 120 kmph, depending on the kind of vehicle. The police have also banned two-wheelers on the access-controlled road connecting Tumakuru Road and Hosur Road between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m.

City Police Commissioner B. Dayananda's order cites an increasing number of accidents, especially involving two-wheelers and speeding and reckless driving on the stretch.

NICE Road reported 92 fatal accidents and 204 non-fatal accidents between 2022 and June 2024, in most cases due to reckless driving and speeding. Two-wheeler traffic has been identified as one of the leading causes of accidents.

The new regulations came into force on Friday.

While no speed limit was fixed for any vehicles on NICE Road, now the speed limit for M1 category vehicles (motor vehicles used for the carriage of passengers comprising not more than eight seats in addition to the driver's seat) has been fixed at 120 kmph.

For M2 and M3 category vehicles (motor vehicles used for the carriage of passengers comprising nine or more seats in addition to the driver's seat), it has been fixed at 100 kmph.

For motorcycles and all the N category vehicles (vehicles used for the carriage of goods), the speed limit has been fixed at 80 kmph. The police officials said the number of accidents on the stretch has been going up in the last few years. In 2023, there were 37 fatal accidents and 83 non-fatal accidents, while om 2022, there were 42 fatal accidents and 69 non-fatal accidents. So far this year (up to June 30), there have been 13 fatal accidents and 52 non-fatal accidents on NICE Road.

M. N. Anucheth, Joint Commissioner (Traffic), Bengaluru told *The Hindu* that the Bengaluru Traffic Police will deploy four portable speed laser guns at random locations at random time intervals along the NICE Road through out the day to enforce the speed limit and book violators.

In an order passed on Friday, City Police Commissioner B. Dayananda said several traffic police stations along the NICE Road had written to him saying measures taken to curb accidents on the road, like caution boards, proved futile.

### Accidents on NICE Road

| Year | Fatal accidents | Non-fatal accidents |
|---|---|---|
| 2022 | 42 | 69 |
| 2023 | 37 | 83 |
| 2024 (Till June 30) | 13 | 52 |
| Total | 92 | 204 |

### Speed limit on NICE Road

| Category | Speed limit (kmph) |
|---|---|
| Motor vehicles used for passengers, comprising not more than eight seats in addition to the driver's seat (M1 category vehicles) | 120 |
| Motor vehicles used for passengers, comprising nine or more seats in addition to the driver's seat (M2 and M3 category vehicles) | 100 |
| Heavy goods vehicles (all N category vehicles) | 80 |
| Motorcycles | 80 |

**Timings**
BENGALURU

| SATURDAY, AUG. 03 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| RISE | 06:06 | SET | 18:46 |
| RISE | 04:52 | SET | 18:09 |
| **SUNDAY, AUG. 04** | | | |
| RISE | 06:06 | SET | 18:45 |
| RISE | 05:48 | SET | 18:54 |
| **MONDAY, AUG. 05** | | | |
| RISE | 06:06 | SET | 18:45 |
| RISE | 06:40 | SET | 19:35 |

| Bengaluru Weather | max | min |
|---|---|---|
| Tumakuru | 32 | 25 |
| Mysuru | 26 | 20 |
| Bengaluru | 27 | 21 |

**Bengaluru Today**
**26°C** The weather will be comfortable with cloudy sky. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower will occur.

**Bengaluru Tomorrow**
**27°C** Day will be comfortable with cloudy sky. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

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THE HINDU
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# 33 FIRs filed since Aug. 1 for speeding over 130 kmph

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The police have registered 33 FIRs against drivers who were found to be overspeeding beyond 130 kmph on the State's highways since August 1.

The drivers were booked under Section 281 of Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita, for rash and negligent manner as to endanger human life. Those booked under this section can be imprisoned for six months or fined ₹1000, or both.

Alok Kumar, Commissioner for Traffic and Road Safety, Karnataka, had announced that starting from August 1, the police would book FIRs against those who were found to be overspeeding beyond 130 kmph. Earlier, they were only fined when caught.

**Recent accident**
This move follows a recent accident on NICE Road where three persons were killed in an accident due to a vehicle speeding at 160 kmph. Following this, during a special drive on the Bengaluru - Mysuru Highway on July 25, 155 drivers were caught speeding over 130 kmph.

Now too, those caught overspeeding beyond the speed limit prescribed for the particular stretch of highway would be fined, but those caught to be overspeeding beyond 130 kmph would be booked in a criminal case.

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

IN THE COURT OF THE SUBORDINATE JUDGE, TIRUPATTUR, TIRUPATTUR DISTRICT, TAMIL NADU.

O.S.NO. 44 OF 2023

K.G.Ravichandiran ...Plaintiff
-Vs-
Bhagavan Allallappa ...Defendant

To,
Bhagavan Allallappa,
Son of Muniyellappa, Plot Nos. 12 & 13, Yellamma Muniyellappa, Nilaya, Bhuvaneshwari Nagar, Attibele, Anekal Taluk, Bangaluru District, Karnataka State-562107.

NOTICE

In the above number suit that the plaintiff has filed the suit for recovery of borrowed amount against you. It is posted on 21-08-2024. You have to appear on that date through Advocate or directly party in person at 10 O'Clock Morning in the Court. Failing which exparte order will be passed against you.

**T.K. SUNDARAVADIVEL,** B.A., LL.B.
**T.S. VICNESHWARAN,** B.A., LL.B., (HONS),
Advocates, No. 15, North Agraharam Street, Tirupattur, Tirupattur District, Tamil Nadu - 635601, Cell No. 6380643424.

**WATER PROOFING**

**BUILDING SOLUTIONS:** Waterproofing Roof, Sump, Bathroom, Skylight, Swimming pool, Heat resistant coating, House painting. Call: 9448572697

**LEGAL NOTICE**

IN THE COURT OF XXI ADDITIONL CITY CIVIL COURT AT ALLIKULAM
O.S.NO.2888 OF 2019

R.Jeyaraman ... Plaintiff
(Vs)
1.R.Krishnamorthy, And others .... Defendants

To
D6, Triveni,
D/o.Venkateshwara Rao,
Grand daughter of late S.Ramasubban,
No.286, 7th Main 3rd Cross,
Ramamurthy Nagar,
Chikkaramaiah, Lyt Tepalaya MN,
Bangalore, Karnataka - 560016

Take notice that the above named Plaintiff has filed the above said case for partition against you before this Honourable Court and the same was posted on **28-08-2024** for your appearance.

you are hereby requested to appear before this Honorable Court on **28-08-2024** at 10.30 a.m either personally or through counsel without fail, failing which the case will be heard and decided in your absence.

**C.RUSSEL RAJ,**
Advocate, Chennai

**LEGAL NOTICE**

IN THE COURT OF THE CIVIL JUDGE AND JMFC AT TURUVEKERE
F.D.P. No.1/2018

**Petitioner:** B. T. Srinivasamurthy Dead by Lrs. a) Smt. S.R. Meenakshi W/o Late. Srinivasamurthy B. T. 59 years. b)B.S. Poornima D/o.Late. Srinivasamurthy, 30 years. c)B.S. Lavanya D/o.Late. Srinivasamurthy B.T. 29 years. d)H.S. Pavankumar S/o Late. Srinivasamurthy B. T. 27 years. Lr. (a) to (d) are residing at Havala, Kodagihalli Post, Kasaba Hobli, Turuvekere Taluk -V/S-
**Respondents:** B.T. Girish dead by LRS & others LRS of Sri.S. Puttaraju S/o. Late Sri.B.L., Nanjundaiah, R-10(a) D.N. Jyothi W/o Puttaraju, aged about 68 years, resident of No.51/2, 7th Cross, 1st Main, Sirsi Road, Chamarajapet, Bangalore South-560018,
R-10(b) Chandrakala P. D/o Puttaraju, aged about 48 years, resident of No.57. M.G. Road, SLV Medicals, Denkanikottal, Denkanikotta, Krishnagiri, Tamilnadu-635107.
R-10(c) Sheela Sathish D/o Puttaraju, aged about 47 years, resident of No.125, 2nd Main, 4th Block, Nethaji Road, Near KEB Quarters, Thyagarajanagar, Bangalore-560028.
R-10(d) Mahesh Kumar P. S/o Puttaraju, aged about 41 years, resident of No.51/2, 7th Cross, 1st Main, Sirsi Road, Chamarajpet, Bangalore South-560018

NOTICE

That the petitioners have filed the above petition and prayed this Hon'ble court to draw the Final Decree as per the Judgement and Decree passed by this Hon'ble Court in OS No.118/2006 dated 20.12.2008 in which summons sent to the LRS R-10(a) to (d) of the deceased respondent 10 returned un-served. The next hearing date is fixed to 19-08-2024 If there is any objections from the LRS R- 10(a) to (d) of the deceased respondent No.10 in the above matter appear before the above court on **19-08-2024 at 11 AM** along with necessary documents either in person or through their advocate.Otherwise the matter will be decided.
Given order on 15-07-2024 Court with Sign and Seal of the Court

By Order of the Court
Sd/- Chief Ministerial Officer
Sr Civil Judge & JMFC., Court, Turuvekere
**Advocate for Petitioner:**
**P. L. Naveen Kumar, Advocate**

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **ABDUL KHARIM NADARSHA** and **NADARSHA MUBEENA** both are residing at THE NEST, MANJUSHRI LAYOUT, NEAR GOVT. SCHOOL, HOSAKOTE TALLUKU, VTC: Kurubarahalli, PO: Kumbalahalli, District: Bangalore Rural, Karnataka-562114. hereby declare that our son's names from **DARSHA MUBEENA NADARSHA & DARSHA MELIN NADARSHA** are one and the same person henceforth, We have decided to continue our son's name in future as **DARSHA MELIN NADARSHA** vide affidavit dated 01-08-2024 sworn to before notary Devaraja .E, Bangalore

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that my client/ or his nominee **Mr.Gadiraju Harinath Varma s/o Mr.Satyanarayana Raju Gadiraju** called as PURCHASER, is intending to purchase the **Item No.1** of the schedule property mentioned hereunder from **Mr.N.Venkatappa s/o Mr.Narayanappa** and **Item No.2** of the schedule Property from **Mr.Praveen Kumar.C s/o Sri.Chandmal** respectively ; any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof on or before **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our clients shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

**ITEM No.1 :** Immovable Residential property bearing Vacant **Site No.311,** carved out of property No.3/2 (old property No.3), in the layout known as **"SHUBA YOGA TOWNSHIP"** measuring East to West 60 feet and North to South 40 feet, in all measuring **2400 sq. ft** situated at **ANAGLAPURA Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore,** under Doddagubbi Grama Panchayat, and bounded on the : **East by : Road, West by : Private Property, North by : Road and South by : Site No.312.**
**ITEM No.2 :** Immovable Residential property bearing Vacant **Site No.314,** carved out of property No.3/2 (old property No.3), in the layout known as **"SHUBA YOGA TOWNSHIP"** situated at **ANAGLAPURA Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore,** measuring East to West on the Northern side 59 feet, on the Southern side 58 feet and North to South 40 feet, in all measuring **2340 sq. feet** under Doddagubbi Grama Panchayat, and bounded on the : **East by : 30 feet wide Road, West by : Private Property, North by : Site No.313,South by : Site No.315.**

**C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES**
**Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN** M.A., L.L.B.
**Advocates & Legal Consultants** Bangalore-43
**M : 9845846428, 080-48658774**
**E- Mail: rvlaw.76@gmail.com**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to inform the general public that my client **Mrs.Chandrika Sheaker, w/o.Sheaker.B.R,** has lost the Original Possession Certificate/ Memo bearing No.P.R.34/7-6-51, Dated 07.06.1951, issued by City Improvement Trust Board, in respect of the schedule property. My client has informed that inspite of her best efforts she was unable to trace the same and has also lodged an online police complaint on 02.08.2024 in respect of the same.
If any Person/s find the aforesaid original Possession Certificate / Memo, they may handover the same to the undersigned within **15 days** from the date of this publication.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the **Site No.283,** Block No.II, in **Jayanagar Extension, Bangalore,** measuring East to West **40** feet, North to South **60** feet, with all rights, appurtenances, whatsoever, whether underneath or above the surface and bounded on the:
**East by : Site No.282**
**West by : Site No.284**
**North by : 12th Cross Road**
**South by : Site No.294**

**SAHAI KUMAR,** Advocate
#311, 2nd Floor, 3rd Main, 3rd Phase, J.P.Nagar, Bangalore-560078 Mob : 9845090974

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that my client/or nominee **Mr. Chikatla Naveen Kumar s/o Ch. Satyanarayana** called as PURCHASERS, is intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from **Mr. J.Naveen Reddy s/o Sri. B.G. Jayarama Reddy;** any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof on or before **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our clients shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Immovable Residential property bearing Vacant **Site No.313,** carved out of property No.3/2 (old property No.3), in the layout known as **"SHUBA YOGA TOWNSHIP"** situated at **ANAGLAPURA Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore,** measuring East to West 58 feet and North to South 40 feet, in all measuring **2320 sq. feet** presently coming under Doddagubbi Grama Panchayat, bounded on the : **East by : 30 feet wide Road, West by : Private Property, North by : Site No.312, South by : Site No.314.**

**C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES**
**Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN** M.A., L.L.B.
**Advocates & Legal Consultants** Bangalore-43
**M : 9845846428, 080-48658774**
**E- Mail: rvlaw.76@gmail.com**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that my client **MR. LESLIE JOHN LEAN S/o. Mr. Joseph Lean** called as PURCHASER, is intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from **1) MR. VARGHESE T.C. S/o. Late. T.K. Chakkunny 2) MRS. JOFY M.F. W/o. Mr. Varghese.T.C;** any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof on or before **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our clients shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Immovable Residential property bearing Vacant **Site No.13,** Khatha No.997/13/13/3 & 1487/13/3/13, formed out of property No.13/6, old property No.13/3 in the layout known as **"PRAGATHI ENCLAVE LAYOUT",** situated at **ANAGALAPURA village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, Bangalore** . measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South 40 feet, in all measuring **1200 sq.ft** presently coming under Doddagubbi Gram Panchayath, bounded on the :
**East by : Site No.12, West by : Site No.14, North by : Private property, South by : Road.**

**C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES**
**Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN** M.A., L.L.B.
**Advocates & Legal Consultants** Bangalore-43
**M : 9845846428, 080-48658774**
**E- Mail: rvlaw.76@gmail.com**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that my client **MR.B.MURALI KRISHNA s/o MR.B.VENKAIAH** called as PURCHASER, is intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from **MR.C.SUNIL KUMAR s/o MR.B.K.CHANDRASHEKAR;** any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof on or before **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our clients shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Immovable Residential property bearing Vacant **Site No.27,** Khatha No.1116/1606/8/27, carved out of property No.8/1 (old property No.8), in the layout known as **"SHUBA YOGA TOWNSHIP"** situated at **ANAGLAPURA Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore,** measuring East to West 60 feet and North to South 40 feet, in all measuring **2400 sq. feet** presently under the Doddagubbi Grama Panchayat and , bounded on the :
**East by : Private property, West by : 30 Feet wide Road, North by : Site No.28, South by : Site No.26.**

**C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES**
**Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN** M.A., L.L.B.
**Advocates & Legal Consultants** Bangalore-43
**M : 9845846428, 080-48658774**
**E- Mail: rvlaw.76@gmail.com**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

TO WHOMSOEVER IT MAY CONCERN

WHEREAS our clients have entered into an agreement to purchase the immoveable property being Agricultural lands situated in Survey No. 25/1, (earlier part of Survey No. 25), Anekal Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, measuring TWO Acres, more fully described in the 'SCHEDULE PROPERTY' herein and hereinafter referred to as the 'SCHEDULE PROPERTY,' from **Sri M. Shantharaju,** S/o. Mariswamappa. Whereas it is represented to our clients by the said owner that he is the sole, exclusive and absolute owner and is in peaceful physical possession, occupation and enjoyment of the Schedule Property, having a marketable title and that there are no encumbrances, etc., on the Schedule Property. Whereas the said owner has also represented that his Vendor's Vendor namely **Sri G. Ramesh Kumar** had informed his Vendor that the Sale Deed dated 31/08/1987 has been lost and covenants that he or his Vendor or his Vendor's Vendor or his predecessors in title, have not mortgaged, or created any lien or encumbered the Schedule property or any part thereof in any manner to any person/s or pledged the afore mentioned Original Sale Deed as a security for any loans /borrowings to any banks/financial institutions/third parties. If any person is in possession of the said Sale Deed, then it is earnestly requested to inform / intimate the same to the undersigned.
Any person/s asserting any rights, title, interest or claims in the Schedule Property or any part thereof in any manner, shall lodge their objections and / or claims, in writing to the undersigned ***within SEVEN days*** from the date of this publication, with all documentary proof on which they are basing and asserting their rights with regard to the Schedule Property or any part thereof. After the said period of ***SEVEN days,*** our clients will proceed to purchase the Schedule Property and any objections or claims received thereafter will not be valid and will not be binding on our clients.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immoveable property being Agricultural lands situated in Survey No. 25/1 (earlier being part of Survey No.25), **Anekal Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District,** measuring TWO Acres (2.00.00.00 Acres), and bounded: on the: **East by:-** Survey Nos. 25/2 and 25/3 owned by T.N. Pranay Reddy; **West by:-** Road; **North by:-** Survey No.32; **South by:-** Survey No.24 owned by Goutam Reddy.

*Sd/-*
**Narendra B. Gandhi,**
**Gandhi & Associates, Advocates,**
4th Floor, Lakshmi Complex, No. 40, K.R. Road, Bengaluru-560 002.
Phone: 2670 2253; Mobile: 9341247234.
Email: narendrabpgandhi@yahoo.com

**GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA**
**Public Works Department P. W. Division, Panvel**
**Telephone No. 022-27452778**
**E- Tender Notice No.20**
**(Open ONLINE)Year-2024-25**
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**Fax Number :-022-27467440**

Executive Engineer P. W. Division Panvel invite B-1 Tender From Registered Contractor with Govt. of Maharashtra Detail Tender Notice Available On **www.mahapwd.gov.in** and **www.mahatenders.gov.in** Portal.

Note :-**Total 4** Work include in Tender notice.

Online Tender Download & Bid Preparation Period Date 02.08.2024 At 10.00 AM To Date 09.08.2024 18.00 PM.

Online Tender Bid Preparation Last Date 09.08.2024 at 18.00 AM.

*Sd/-*
**Executive Engineer**
**P.W.Division, Panvel**
**DGIPR/2024-2025/1540**

**WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY**

**Advertised E-Tender Notice- No.: DY.CE-C-III-BPL-12-2024 Dated: 31.07.2024**
**Advertised E-Tender Notice- No.: DY.CE-C-III-BPL-13-2024 Dated: 31.07.2024**
E-Tender [Single packet system] on behalf of the President of India acting through Dy Chief Engineer-III [Construction], West Central Railway, Bhopal invites tenders for the following works. **Tender No.:** DY.CE-C-III-BPL-12-2024, **Description of work:** Construction of track side drain in Nishatpura 'D' cabin yard, Sant Hirdaram Nagar yard and block section between Nishatpura D cabin-Sant Hirdaram Nagar in connection with Ramganjmandi-Bhopal New BG Rail Line Project., **Approx cost of tender:** 328.56 lacs, **Earnest Money (Rs.):** 314300.00, **Date of opening of tender:** 22.08.2024 at 15:00 hrs, **Completion period:** 08 months including harvest & monsoon period, **Tender No.:** DY.CE-C-III-BPL-13-2024, **Description of work:** Laying and linking of New BG line on PSC sleepers & miscellaneous Pway Works Between KM 202 to 228 in State of Madhya Pradesh in connection with Ramganjmandi-Bhopal New BG Rail Line Project., **Approx cost of tender:** 1336.82 lacs, **Earnest Money (Rs.):** 818400.00, **Date of opening of tender:** 22.08.2024 at 15:00 hrs, **Completion period:** 15 months including harvest & monsoon period. The complete information of above E-Tender is available in website **IREPS (www.ireps.gov.in)** and also placed on the notice board of the office of DY.CE/C/BPL. Tenders other than in the form of e-bids shall not be accepted against above tenders.

**Dy.CE-C-III, WCR, Bhopal**

स्वच्छ भारत अभियान एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

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**Shri Siddaramaiah**
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka

**Department of Health and Family Welfare**

**Shri. D. K. Shivakumar**
Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister of Karnataka

# Indian Organ Donation Day

## "Organ Donation Awareness Campaign"

Program Launch by: Hon'ble Health Minister **Shri Dinesh Gundu Rao**

Aug 03, 2024 10:00 AM

Dr. B. S Jirge Hall, Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College (JNMC), Belagavi

**" Donate Organs, Save Lives "**

- Organ donation can be done with the consent of the family members of any brain-dead person. It is legal
- A donor can save many lives by donating organs including kidneys, liver, heart, lungs, pancreas, and small intestine
- Tissues such as corneas, heart valves, skin, and bone marrow from a deceased person can support many lives
- Organ and tissue donation can be done irrespective of age or gender

Scan NOTTO QR code to pledge for Organ Donation and save lives.

**Donate Organs, Save Lives**

**Shri Dinesh Gundu Rao,**
Hon'ble Minister of Health, participating in a department programme

**For more information, contact: JEEVASARTHAKATHE/ SOTTO**
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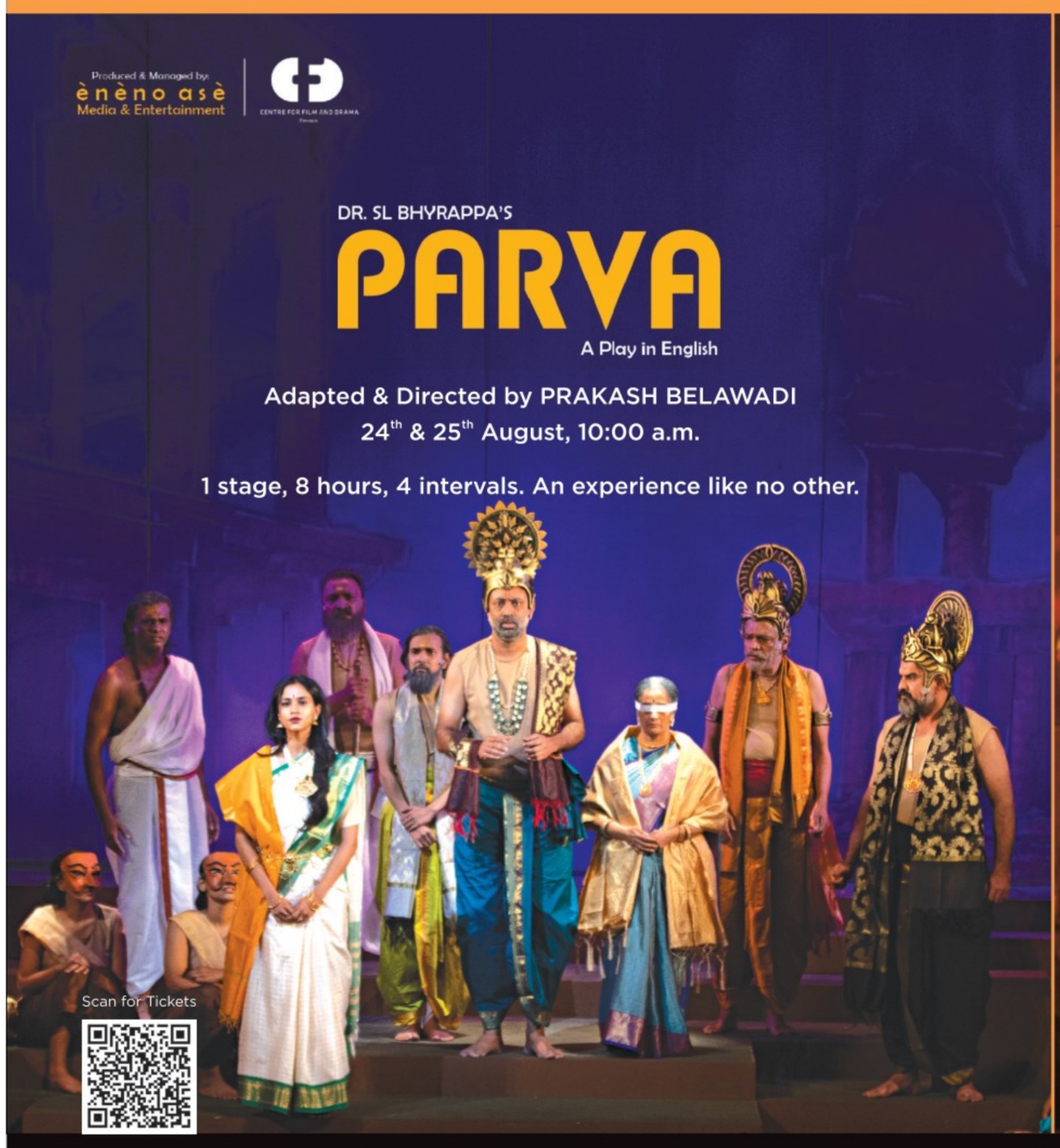
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LIFESTYLE

# Dhurries in your coaster

How Mona B India upcycles Indian Army tents, truck tarps, and dhurries to craft bags and home decor accessories

Nidhi Adlakha

Every month, Rahul Bhatia, 48, and Ammrites Chaand Dhupar, 51, procure about 50 tents discarded by the Indian Army. Purchased from stockists in New Delhi, they are cleaned and treated, alongside several other materials such as truck tarps, rPET (recycled plastic), vegan leather, and felt, that go into the making of everything from bags, rugs, table runners, and other decor accessories at Mona B India.

"Post the life cycle of cotton canvas that is primarily used in Army tents and trucks, it is auctioned off, and purchased by GRS (Global Recycled Standards) certified stockists, whom we buy from," says Rahul, Managing Director of the New Delhi-based brand, who are the licence holders of the U.S.-based parent company, Mona B, since 2019.

Specialising in upcycled and recycled products, the brand took shape when Bhatia and Dhupar, the brand's director, realised India has a huge market for sustainable and upcycled products.

"We had been working in the export market for sustainable lifestyle products for almost 14 years, and were regular suppliers to Mona B in the U.S.," says

Rahul. Bhatia explains how the fabric processing begins with sorting and sourcing GRS-certified fabrics, treating them, working on surface design, and then printing. "The common materials we use are imported rPET, dhurries made out of recycled polyester fabric, and cotton canvas." The latter, he says, has been their most popular material "due to its strength, versatility, and rugged look and feel". Rahul explains how every tent has a shelf life of about six months, and their first collection of bags was made entirely using Indian army tents.

"They have their limitations, as even after washing they look stained so only dark colours work. Today, about 75-80% of the fabric we source is GRS-certified, and the tents are

Mona B's decor range comprises rugs, placemats, coasters, runners, tissue box covers, and more.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

used to make wallets, luggage tags, etc."

When the duo launched their dhurrie bags in 2022, and "on seeing the response, we felt that they should do well as placemats and rugs. This gave us the push to venture into the decor space," says Bhatia, who went on to launch a range of rugs, placemats, coasters, runners, tissues box covers, among others.

These are all made from woven fabric made up of 60% cotton and 40% recycled polyester yarn, he explains. "Our dhurries in particular are made from rPET, and are very soft in texture as they have a cotton blend.

They are machine washable, and have an anti-skid coating at the back," says Bhatia, who is now gearing up for the launch of cushion covers, table covers, quilts, and poufs "all within the recycled fabric area".

The Rand collection that drops in August will feature backpacks, duffles, etc. "They're unisex bags crafted out of recycled cotton canvas fabric from Indian Army tents. Until now, we were buying our fabric and printing on it. This year, we are dyeing the fabric in winter hues of black, grey, navy blue, and chocolate," he says of the range that will comprise backpacks, duffels, totes, and cross body bags.

Now experimenting with recycled felt and denim, Bhatia is hopeful of including more materials to the brand's catalogue and is aiming to launch "two collections a year from 2025 that will be a mix of bags, accessories, and home textiles".

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# OTS for property tax defaulters extended till Aug. 31

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Friday announced that the one-time settlement (OTS) scheme for property tax defaulters has been extended until August 31, 2024.

The scheme, inaugurated in February 2024, gave a window where tax defaulters could pay the tax without penalty and interest. It ended on July 31.

On July 30 and July 31, thousands of defaulters rushed to the civic body's offices, resulting in servers crashing resulting in many people being denied a chance to pay their taxes without interest and penalty.

The scheme provided an opportunity for 3.95 lakh property tax defaulters to pay penalty-free dues, and the civic body collected ₹217.5 crore. K. MURALI KUMAR

Chief Civic Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said the number of defaulters who were ready to pay but not able to do so due to the technical glitch was high, and hence, the State government decided to extend the deadline.

**Under the scheme, inaugurated in February, defaulters could pay the tax without penalty and interest**

"Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) will now keep the window open till the fresh deadline. The defaulters should come in larger numbers to pay the interest-free dues to the revenue department," Mr. Giri Nath said.

The BBMP, through the ambitious OTS scheme, gave 3.95 lakh property tax defaulters an opportunity to pay interest and penalty-free dues and collected ₹217.5 crore. Data shared by the BBMP shows 1.07 lakh property tax defaulters made use of the scheme, which was launched on February 23.

During a press briefing on Friday, Mr. Shivakumar said thanks to the OTS scheme, the civic body collected property tax of ₹3,000 crore so far in this fiscal year. It is over ₹700 crore more than the previous year.

He assured taxpayers that adjustments would be made to ensure fair treatment, clarifying that if a taxpayer overpaid, the excess would be adjusted against future tax payments. "There is no need for concern on this count," he said.

# Abu Abraham's cartoons on display

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The Indian Institute of Cartoonists is organising an exhibition titled "Abu's World' of Abu Abraham's work on the occasion of his birth centenary, from Saturday. The exhibition will be on till August 31 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Indian Cartoon Gallery, No. 1, Midford House, Midford Garden, off M.G. Road.

# Man stabs wife to death in Chamarajpet

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

A 34-year-old woman was stabbed to death by her husband at her residence on Friday. The accused recorded and posted a video on social media owning up to the crime after the murder and threatening his mother-in-law. The Chamarajpet police have launched a search to track him down.

The victim, identified as Syed Fasil Fathima, was living with her mother and children after informally separating from her husband, identified as Tabrez Pasha, 40. The wife had applied for divorce in the family court, and the case was under way.

Police said the accused, Tabrez, had phoned his wife to convince her to reunite with him on Thursday. The wife reportedly refused to go back with him, standing her ground.

Tabrez landed up at his in-law's house on Friday morning. He spoke to his two children before they left for school. He later tried convincing his wife to reunite with him, and when she did not agree to his repeated requests, he allegedly took out a knife from his pocket that he had been carrying and stabbed her multiple times. He then recorded a video threatening his mother-in-law of a similar fate if she filed a complaint against him.

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Notice is given to all the Fellows (by examination) who have been conferred their fellowship on or before 31st July 2014, for renewal of their membership on the basis of fellowship by examination.

In terms thereof as per Section 13 (d) of Chapter-VII, of the Bye-Laws it is mandatory for every fellow to renew his/her membership every 10 years from his/her convocation as a fellow by paying the fees as decided by the Executive Committee from time to time otherwise his/her name shall be removed from the electoral roll.

In view of the above all the Fellows, who have completed 10 years from the date and year of convocation are hereby directed to renew the membership as fellow by paying fees of Rs. 1000/- (Rs. One Thousand Only) on or before 17th September, 2024 as decided by Executive Committee. It is hereby made clear that, if anyone fails to renew his/her membership, his/her name shall be removed from electoral roll without giving any further notice. The renewal form is made available on our official website www.cpsmumbai.org and/ or in the office, during office hours.

All the fellows are further instructed to check in person whether their names are included in the present electoral role, kept in the office of the Secretary of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Mumbai, during office hours, at CPS house, Dr. E. Borges road, Parel Mumbai 400 012, till 30th September, 2024 up-to 12:00 noon. To update their addresses, please email addressed to Dy. Secretary, College of Physicians and Surgeons of Mumbai, CPS house, on cpsadmin@cpsmumbai.org.

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**For further information contact the Officers mentioned below**

Assistant Executive Engineer (Konadasapura) **9900055612**
Assistant Executive Engineer (Kaniminike) **9900055612**
Assistant Executive Engineer (Nagarabhavi, Chandra Layout) **9449511244**
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T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru - 560 020.

M BG-BGE

# Schoolchildren to get special lunch on festivals, birthdays

**Jayanth R.**
BENGALURU

A file photo of students having midday meals at a school in Benglauru.

With the community's active participation, the Karnataka government is set to provide special lunches to government and aided schoolchildren under the midday meal (PM Poshan) programme on festivals, important national days, and birthdays of teachers and students.

Following the directions of the Education Ministry of the Union government and to attract children towards government schools, the State government has taken this step, Commissioner of Public Instruction B.B. Kaveri has said in the order.

In collaboration with the Union government and the State government, the midday meals programme has been implemented in government and aided schools across the State, and about 55.6 lakh students have benefited from it. The Commissioner has said a special lunch ("Tithi Bhojana") will be served with the help of donors, non-governmental organisations, industries, traders, entrepreneurs, School Development and Monitoring Committees (SDMCs) and locals.

**No junk food**

"Fresh, healthy and nutritious food should be served in Tithi Bhojana as per National Food Security Act norms. Locally available green leafy vegetables, pulses/legumes and cereals should be incorporated in the special meals menu. Cleanliness and hygiene standards should be followed while storing, cooking and serving food grains. Seasonal fruits can be added to this menu. But, for any reason, it is advised not to distribute any other junk food, including noodles, chips, cake, or chocolate, to the students," said the order.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, B.B. Kaveri, Commissioner of Public Instruction, said, "Teachers in most of the schools of the State are voluntarily organising special meals for school children on special days, including Obbattau and other sweets in the special meals. In some schools, teachers spend their own money on it. Such measures also increase the interest of children towards school," she said.

# Traffic woes continue below double-decker flyover

Motorists from Jayanagar East, Bannerghatta Road, BTM Layout, and J.P. Nagar are unable to fully utilise the flyover as the sole access ramp is located at Ragigudda

**Darshan Devaiah B.P.**
BENGALURU

The double-decker flyover, which opened for a trial run on July 17, has improved the traffic situation between Ragigudda and the Central Silk Board junction. However, motorists from Jayanagar East, Bannerghatta Road, BTM Layout and J.P. Nagar are unable to fully utilise the flyover, as the sole access ramp is located at Ragigudda.

The flyover, built by Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL), spans 5.12 km and was constructed at a cost of ₹449 crore. BMRCL claims the flyover is expected to ease the notorious bottleneck at the Central Silk Board junction. However, during peak hours, heavy traffic is still seen below the flyover, particularly near BTM Layout.

The flyover includes loops and ramps specifically designed to enable signal-free travel from Ragigudda to HSR Layout and Hosur Road. K. MURALI KUMAR

**Commute time**

During a visit to the stretch by *The Hindu*, it was observed that only vehicles from Ragigudda were using the flyover, and a significant amount of traffic that comes from BTM Layout, J.P. Nagar, and Bannerghatta Road continued to congest the roads below. The bottleneck near BTM Layout and Central Silk Board remained a significant issue.

Anirudh Ram, a motorist from BTM Layout, shared his frustration: "There's still a huge traffic jam in Silk Board junction. Hardly a few people are using it from BTM layout and J.P. Nagar since there is no ramp to enter the flyover, and if we want to get onto the flyover we have to take a detour for a kilometre".

K. Narayan, another motorist from Bannerghatta Road, said, "Motorists from Bannerghatta Road have to take a long U-turn to get onto the flyover from Ragigudda, hence many are still taking the usual route under the flyover, causing traffic jams at Silk Board junction."

On the other hand, many have welcomed the travel time being cut because of the flyover. Praveen Kumar, a regular commuter from Jayanagar to HSR Layout, said the journey that usually takes 30 to 40 minutes from Ragigudda is now reduced to 10 minutes.

"I never thought I would experience this in my life - reaching the Silk Board within 10 minutes. The stretch is good, and I hope this will benefit lakhs of motorists," he said.

**Initial challenges**

Traffic expert Prof. M.N. Srihari said that the flyover should have had multiple entry ramps. "While the flyover is needed, it won't fulfil its purpose without proper access points. Typically, flyovers are shorter in distance, but this one spans over 5 km, making the need for several ramps even more critical," he said.

BMRCL officials conceded that there were initial challenges and assured that the situation would improve. "Since these are initial days, many may not be fully aware of the flyover route and exit points. Gradually, more people will start using the flyover, which will reduce the traffic at Central Silk Board junction," said a BMRCL official.

The new flyover includes loops and ramps specifically designed to enable signal-free travel from Ragigudda to HSR Layout and Hosur Road. It aims to offer a smoother and quicker route for commuters heading towards K.R. Puram and Hosur Road, potentially cutting travel time by over 30%.

Although the main structure of the flyover is complete, some ramps connecting the HSR Layout to the flyover towards Ragigudda and the BTM Layout are still under construction. These sections, spanning 1.37 km, are slated for completion by June 2025.

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C-525/24 76155/12/3219/2023/36325

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that our Client intends to purchase the below mentioned Schedule Property from **Mr. ABDUL SUBHAN** aged about 40 years son of Late. Mr. Khuda Bakash residing at No. 599, Police Gangappa Road, Nelamangala Town, Bengaluru Rural District & **Mr. FAYAZ AHMED KHAN** aged about 34 years son of Mr. Nasir Ahmed Khan resident of Thadigol Village, Srinivasapura Taluk, Kolar District **("Owners")**.
The Owners have represented that they are the absolute owners and are in possession of the Schedule Property and the Schedule Property is free from any kind of encumbrance, suits and proceedings under any statute. Any person or persons asserting any right, title, interest, claim or demand whatsoever in the Schedule Property or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage, charge, lien, gift, inheritance, bequest, possession, lis pendens, maintenance, easement, memorandum of understanding, agreement, power of attorney, option, right of first refusal, pre-emption or otherwise whatsoever is hereby required to notify the same in writing to the undersigned within a period of **Seven (7) days** from the date of issuance of this notice with all documentary proof thereof failing which our Client will treat the title of the Schedule Property as clear and marketable and will proceed to enter into the sale transaction.
**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**
All that piece and parcel of Agriculture Land bearing **Sy. No. 14/1A** measuring **1 Acre & 20 Guntas** (excluding 1 Gunta of B Kharab) situated at **Obalapura Village, Kora Hobli, Tumkur Taluk, Tumkur District.**
**East by : Sy. No. 13; West by : Road; North by: Sy. No. 14/1B & Sy. No. 12; and South by: Sy. No. 14/2.**
**Mr. Sadananda P N**
**For Sadananda & Co.**
No. 54/1, off 8th Cross, Central Street Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru - 560020
spn@sadanandalaw.co.in | 080-23449994

**PUBLIC NOTICE**
Public is hereby informed that my client is intending to purchase the property described in the schedule hereunder from its ownerSri.R.Thimmaiah Shetty,S/o.Sri. Vitobha Shetty, Residing at C-302, Mantri Garden, Jayanagar, 1st Block,Bangalore-560011.Any person/s having any claim over the schedule property may lodge his/her/their objections or claims in writing with all documentary evidence with regard to such claims, to the undersigned within 15 days hereof, failing which my client will proceed to complete the purchase. Any objections/claims received thereafter will not be entertained and not binding upon my client.
**SCHEDULE PROPERTY:**
**Item No.1:**
All that piece and parcel of the immovable Property being Land bearing New Sy.No.27/14, (old Sy.No.27/2), Situated at Anjanapura Village, UttarahalliHobli, Bangalore South Taluk, measuring to an extent of 00-18guntas ( out of 1 Acre 12 guntas), and bounded on the East by: Land bearing Sy.No.26, West by : Road and Sy No.93, North by: Road and thereafter remaining extent of land bearing New Sy.No.27/14, South by : Land bearing New Sy.No.27/4 item No.2 of the schedule Property.
**Item No.2:**
All that piece and parcel of the immovable Property being Land bearing Survey Number 27/4, Situated at Anjanapura Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, measuring to an extent of 01 (One) Acre 16 guntas and 3 guntas of Kharab Land, and bounded on the: East by: Moorthy Layout formed by Poona Shaheb,West by: Road, and thereafter Private Property, North by:Land bearing New,Sy.No.27/14 item No.1 of the schedule Property, South by:Inamthi land.
**C.R. PRATHIMA,** Advocate,
# 36, Nele, 2nd Floor, 2nd cross, Vinayakanagara layout, Gubbalalla Main Road, Subramanyapura post, Bangalore-560 061.

**ಕೃಷಿ ಮಾರಾಟ ಇಲಾಖೆ**
**ಕೃಷಿ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಸಮಿತಿ**
ಮಹಾತ್ಮ ಗಾಂಧಿ ಸಂಕೀರ್ಣ, ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಪ್ರಾಂಗಣ, ಯಶವಂತಪುರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು – 560022. ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 080-23472850/23371695
ಇ-ಮೇಲ್: apmcbangalore22@gmail.com
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕೃಮಾಇ/ಕೃಉಮಾಸ/ಬೆಂ/ಸ್ವಚ್ಛತೆ/1506/2024-25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 31-07-2024
**ಸಂಕ್ಷಿಪ್ತ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ**
2024-25 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಯಶವಂತಪುರ ಕೃಷಿ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಸಮಿತಿಯ ಯಶವಂತಪುರ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಪ್ರಾಂಗಣ, ದಾಸನಪುರ ಉಪ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಪ್ರಾಂಗಣ, ಯಲಹಂಕ ರೈತರ ಸಂತೆ ಹಾಗೂ ದಾಸನಪುರ ಉಪ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಪ್ರಾಂಗಣದ ಘನತ್ಯಾಜ್ಯ ಘಟಕ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಗಾಗಿ ಅರ್ಹ ಹಾಗೂ ಅನುಭವ ಹೊಂದಿದ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ / ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿದಾರರಿಂದ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ವೇತನ ಕಾಯ್ಕೆಗಳನ್ವಯ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಂ. APMC/2024-25/SE0416 ರನ್ವಯ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಿರುವಂತೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 19-08-2024 ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 080-23472850 ನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದು.
ಸಹಿ/-
ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ
ವಾಸಾಸಂ೫/ವಾ.ಪ್ರ/1247/ಆಡ್ವರ್ಟೋ/2024-25

**CAUVERY NEERAVARI NIGAMA LIMITED**
(A Govt. of Karnataka Enterprise)
Office of the Executive Engineer, Hemavathy Canal Division, Yediyur-572 142. Ph: 7338590199
E-mail:eeyediyur1@gmail.com
No.03/2024-25 Date: 25.07.2024
KPPP SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(TWO COVER SYSTEM) (Through KPPP only)
On the behalf of the Managing Director, CNNL, Bangalore, the Executive Engineer, CNNL, Hemavathi Canal. Division, Yediyur the undersigned invites tender on item rate basis from contractors for 12 Work.
The Maximum amount put to tender is 74.89 lakhs & Minimum amount put to tender is 4.30 lakhs.
The Time Fixed for completion the work is 06 Months. EMD Amount and Processing fees should be paid through KPP Portal. The last date for tender Queries/ Clarifications is 03.08.2024 up to 4.00 pm, The last date for Receival of tenders along with EMD'S is 08.08.2024 up to 5:00pm. Technical Bid will be opened on 09.08.2024 at 5.00 pm.
For more information contact www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in
Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Hemavathy Canal Division, CNNL, Yediyur.
DIPR/TUM/201/KSMCA/2024-25

**District Child Protection Unit**
**Women and Child Development Department**
**No. FB-08 First Floor New Zilladlitha bhavana Shidlaghatta road, Chikkaballapura-562101**
**Tel No.: 08156-277113, e-Mail: dcpocbpur@gmail.com**
No: DCPU/CBP/A.C/2024-25 Date: 30.07.2024
**Request to relocate the parents**

On 03.07.2024 at afternoon in Chintamani Town Govt. Mother and Child Hospital unknown person left the 1 year 6 months male child in Mamateya thottilu. The details of the child along with the photograph have been given.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Child Name | Aravinda |
| 2 | Age of the Child | 1 year 6 months |
| 3 | Father and Mother | Don't Know |
| 4 | Religion and Cast | Don't Know |
| 5 | Languages | Don't Know |
| 6 | Complexion and Height | Fair, 69.5 cm |
| 7 | Weight | 9 KG |

Biological Parents of the child or related guardians or heirs of the child, they are requested to contact the below mentioned office with the relevant documents within 60 days. Office to be cantacted: **District Child Protection Unit No. FB-08 First Floor New Zilladlitha bhavana Shidlaghatta road, Chikkaballapura-562101**
**Tel No.: 08156-277113. e-Mail: dcpocbpur@gmail.com**
**Sd/- District Child Protection Officer,**
**District Child Protection Unit, Chikkaballapur.**
DIPR/Chikkaballapura/R.O.No.117 /KSMCA/2024-25

**NORTH WESTERN KARNATAKA ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION**
**Central Offices, Hubballi.**
Short Term Tender Notification No./04/2024-25 Date : 03-08-2024
**SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION**
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal)
Tender, both Pre-qualification & Commercial Offers **(Two Tender Document System)** through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal are invited from the interested bidders.

| Sl. No. | Tender No. | Description of tender details with approx value |
|---|---|---|
| 01 | NWKRTC/ 2023-24/SE0831/ CALL-2 | Request for proposals for the project management consultancy assignment for implementation of AIS-140/ Vehicle Tracking & Monitoring System (VTMS) at NWKRTC. (Rs. 45.00 Lakhs). |

Last Date & Time for Submission of Tender through e-portal : 10-08-2024 upto 17.30 hrs.
For details visit Website : http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in or Contact Mobile Nos. 70220 09113 / 77609 88557.
Sd/- Controller of Stores & Purchases,
(Tender Inviting Authority).
DIPR/Dharwad/231/Manipal/2024-25

# Man, sister found dead at Sidlaghatta

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

A man and his sister were found dead on a railway track at Sidlaghatta in Chickballapur district on Friday.

Prabhu and Navya, in their twenties, were residents of Prema Nagar in Sidlaghatta. Though they did not leave any note, sources close to the family told police that the duo's mother had passed away recently, and the two had gone into depression. Chickballapur district railway police registered a case and have taken up a probe.

*(Those who are distressed or have suicidal tendencies can call Arogya Sahayavani Ph.: 104 for help)*

Govt of Karnataka
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD DIVISION KALABURAGI**
No: EE/PWD/KD/TS-2/Tender Notification/2024-25/1769 Date: 01-08-2024
**SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION**
1) Name of Work: Executive Engineer PWD Division Invites tender for the (12) Works under KKRDB & MLC Lad. for indent No (Gen 11) 11140/CALL-2, 12342, 12358, 12359. 12360. 11983, 11984, 11986, 11987, 11736, 11026. (1. Work res of ST Catagory.11985), 2) Estimate cost: **Min Rs. 18.00 Lakhs Max Rs. 526.94 Lakhs,** 3) Eligibility of Contractor : Class IV, III,II, I. & above, 4) EMD Amount: Rs. 38000.00 Rs. 648000.00, 5) Pre-Bid Meeting: **07.08.2024 (11.00 Hrs)**, 6) Last date for queries: **08.08.2024 (17.30 Hrs)**, 7) Last date for Submission of Bid: **09.08.2024 (16.00 Hrs)**,9) Date of Opening of Technical Bid : **12.08.2024 (16.30 Hrs)** 10) Date of opening of Financial Bid (for Two Cover) : **13.08.2024 (11.30 Hrs)**, 11) Enquiries : Office of the Executive Engineer PWD Division Kalaburagi, 12) Note: GST Will be Paid Separately, 13) Website: WWW.e-proc.Karnatak.gov.in, 14) Bidders Should Note That: Note: 1) Undersigned reserves the right to Cancel / Postpone/ Reject any or all the tenders at any point of time during tender process without assigning any reason. 2) Changes in the tender process will not be Published in the News Papers Bidders may get Details of Changes In KPPP Portal Only.
Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD Division Kalaburagi
DIPR/Kalaburagi/279/KSMC&A/2024-25

**MADHYA PRADESH BUILDING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**
**(An Agency of Govt. of M.P., Public Works Department)**
**16-A, CEDMAP Building, Arera Hills, Bhopal (MP)-462011**
**Telephone No. : 0755 – 4853297, 0755 – 4853295, Email: einc-mpbdc@mp.gov.in**
NIT No.: 7287/GM/MPBDC/CW,DPR,SQC/24/NIT-58 Bhopal, Dated: 02.08.2024
**NOTICE INVINTING TENDER**
Madhya Pradesh Building Development Corporation invites online tender for the following works of construction, DPR and SQC consultancy services :-
1. Additional work of 50 bedded Critical Care Hospital Block (CCHB) and 100 bedded ward block in District Hospital Sheopur, M.P. – **01 Work – Probable Amount of Construction Work – Rs. 595.56 Lacs**
2. Additional work of 100 bedded Critical Care Hospital Block (CCHB) and 100 bedded ward block in District Hospital Chhatarpur, M.P. **– 01 Work – Probable Amount of Construction Works – Rs. 599.62 Lacs**
3. Preparation of Architectural, Design and DPR for Construction & renovation of MCH, OPD, emergency ward along with Nursing College, Hostel and allied services in Shyam Shah Medical College Campus Rewa. Package No. 011/2024/DPR/BDC/REWA **– 01 Work – Probable amount of Consultancy Fees Rs. 375.00 Lacs**
4. Preparation of Architectural, Design and DPR for Construction, renovation & upgradation of various buildings in Maharaja Yashwantrao Hospital Indore (Trauma Centre, MRTB Hospital, Pediatric Hospital alongwith site development and allied services) Package No. 012/2024/ DPR/BDC/INDORE – **01 Work – Probable amount of Consultancy Fees – Rs. 1350.00 Lacs**
5. SQC Consultancy Work for Construction of Various Building Works Under MPBDC, Zone-1 Package No. 015/2024/SQC/BDC/Zone-1– **01 Work – Probable amount of Consultancy Fees – Rs. 3000.00 Lacs**
6. SQC Consultancy Work for Construction of Various Building Works Under MPBDC, Zone-2 Package No. 016/2024/SQC/BDC/Zone-2 – **01 Work – Probable amount of Consultancy Fees – Rs. 3000.00 Lacs**

Detailed NIT and tender documents can be viewed, downloaded and purchased online from 08.08.2024 at 18:00 hrs. to **28.08.2024 at 15:30 hrs (for S.No. 01 and 02),** 16.08.2024 at 18:00 hrs. to **25.09.2024 at 15:30 hrs (for S.No. 3 and 4 only)** and 13.08.2024 at 18:00 hrs. to **18.09.2024 at 15:30 hrs (for S.No. 05 and 06)** from website **www.mptenders.gov.in**
PAC can vary at the time of uploading of tender document. Any amendment/corrigendum 'if any' will be published on website only, will not be published on newspapers.
M.P. Madhyam/115702/2024 **MANAGING DIRECTOR**

# CM: Decision on rejecting Kasturirangan panel report after further discussions

Environmentalists have been pressing for implementing the report to protect Western Ghats, but it has been rejected by political parties, giving into considerations other than ecological protection

**The Hindu Bureau**
MYSURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah inspecting the area that was hit by a landslide at Srimangala Kutta in Ponnampet taluk of Kodagu district on Friday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who apprised himself of the devastation caused by floods and landslips in Kodagu on Friday, said while the government was against the implementation of the Kasturirangan committee report on conservation of Western Ghats, Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre was for more discussions before arriving at a final decision.

Mr. Siddaramaiah was in Mysuru on Friday to in inspect devastation caused by rains in Kodagu.

Environmentalists in the State have been pressing for implementation of the report to protect the fragile landscape, but it has been rejected by all political parties, giving into considerations other than ecological protection.

When the Chief Minister's attention was drawn to the report of the Geological Survey of India for a permanent solution to the problem of landslips, Mr. Siddaramaiah said he would review and discuss it.

**Extent of damage**

The Chief Minister said ₹746 crore was available in the State for relief works, of which ₹46 crore was meant for Kodagu, and additional funds would be released if required. Mr. Siddaramaiah said 344 km of roads in the district had been damaged.

He said 67 houses had been completely damaged and 176 partially damaged owing to incessant rains, and the government had decided to compensate those affected suitably.

While ₹1.2 lakh would be awarded as compensation, the government would construct the houses, and the Deputy Commissioner would oversee its implementation, said Mr. Siddaramaiah. In the case of partially damaged houses, the owners would receive ₹50,000 as compensation, he added.

On repair of roads damaged because of landslips, the Chief Minister said that minor works would be taken up immediately and major repairs after the cessation of rains.

Mr. Siddaramaiah, who inspected the retention wall near the Deputy Commissioner's office in Madikeri, also instructed the officials to complete the works by the end of December. The Chief Minister said that he would inspect the Shiradi Ghat and the areas affected by rains, and would ask NHAI also to get involved in the repair work.

**Rain-hit sites inspected**

The Chief Minister, amidst rains, inspected the site of a landslide at Srimangala Kutta in Ponnampet taluk. He held discussions with officials and locals on the measures taken. More than 20 families have lost their homes due to landslides in the area. The Chief Minister directed immediate completion and construction of the suspension bridge, repair works in rain-affected areas, and road repairs and construction.

Mr. Siddaramaiah visited one of the relief camps and spoke to the people who had taken shelter. He told the people to approach the district administration and the MLAs if they wanted any more facilities at the camp. He telephoned the mother of the deceased in the Wayanad landslide and expressed grief over the tragedy. Rohit, a class four student from Guheya in Virajpet taluk in Kodagu, had gone to his grandparent's house in Wayanad district when the disaster struck. The boy died in the tragedy.

# Fresh landslips disrupt movement on Bengaluru-Mangaluru highway

**The Hindu Bureau**
MANGALURU/SHIVAMOGGA

Movement of vehicles on the Mangaluru-Bengaluru highway (NH75) via Shiradi Ghat was disrupted following landslips at Doddathappale village, in Sakleshpur taluk of Hassan district in Karnataka, on Friday.

Even as efforts to clear the debris of previous landslips were in progress, heavy rainfall triggered fresh landslips at the spot. Some vehicles were stuck in the mud. The NHAI has hired excavators to clear the road.

For the last two weeks, the Shiradi Ghat stretch of NH75 has been hit by repeated landslips. The movement of vehicles has been affected. Officials are at the spot to ensure the safety of travellers and restore movement of vehicles.

Mud being removed after a landslip on Mangaluru-Madikeri-Mysuru NH 275 in Puttur taluk of Dakshina Kannada district on Friday. SPECIAL ARRAGEMENT

Meanwhile, the preliminary estimate of loss resulting so far from damage to roads and bridges/culverts in Dakshina Kannada following heavy rain has been put at ₹ 192.81 crore. The MESCOM has suffered loss of ₹ 10.12 crore.

Talking to reporters after the visit to some of the flood-affected places of Dakshina Kannada, District In-charge Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao said the loss following damage of roads and culverts/bridges for Public Works Department has been estimated at ₹ 103.48 crore, while that for Engineering division of Panchayat Raj has been put at ₹ 54.12 crore. The Urban Local bodies have suffered loss of ₹35.2 crore due to damage to roads.

As many as 129 houses were severely damaged, and 374 houses were partially damaged in the district since the start of the monsoon in June. As per the revised guidelines for compensation, the State Government will pay ₹1.2 lakh for severely damaged houses and will include the house owner for the release of a grant under the Devaraj Urs housing scheme for building new houses.

A partially damaged house will get a total compensation of ₹50,000. The affected party found staying illegally on land will be paid ₹1 lakh.

There was ₹14.22 crore in the District Disaster Relief Fund and ₹ 4.14 crore in the Taluk Disaster Relief Fund, the Minister said.

# Recover encroached forest land in Western Ghats region: Khandre

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre has directed officials to take strict action against unauthorised layouts, plantations, homestays and resorts that have come up in the Western Ghats region.

The Minister instructed the Additional Chief Secretary of the Forest, Ecology and Environment Department to clear all forest land that has been encroached on since 2015 in Chikkamagaluru, Shivamogga, Mysuru, Chamarajanagar, Belagavi, Dakshina Kannada, Uttara Kannada, Udupi, Kodagu, Hassan districts and other parts of the Western Ghats.

**In a month**

He has instructed that strict action be taken against unauthorised layouts, plantations, homestays and resorts and clear the encroached sites. He directed officials to compile an action-taken report and submit a report in one month.

In the wake of the Shirur landslip, which claimed 11 lives, and the Wayanad devastation, which has claimed more than 200 lives, Mr. Khandre said that these tragedies are also a wake-up call for the people of Karnataka and the survival of the Western Ghats.

In his note, Mr. Khandre said the government has taken seriously the opinion of the experts that such tragedies are recurring due to unscientifically cutting of hills and constructing roads.

**Heavy vehicles in ghats**

He added that heavy vehicular traffic in the Western Ghats region is also posing a danger and that thousands of people are visiting hill stations on weekends on the pretext of tourism and trekking. He said there was a possibility that the trekking activities may come to a halt.


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★ 7 Government IT Parks in Indore, Bhopal, Gwalior & Jabalpur
★ 5 IT SEZs and 50+ large IT & ITeS Companies
IT, ITeS & ESDM Investment Promotion Policy 2023 Highlights
★ Capex Incentives for IT/ITeS, ESDM and Data Centre Units up to Rs. 150 crores
★ Special Capex Incentives up to Rs. 25 crores, for Developers of IT & ESDM infrastructure
★ Land related benefits up to 75%
★ Additional Capital Expenditure Assistance of 2% for Women entrepreneurs
★ Interest assistance up to Rs. 10 crores
★ Rental assistance up to Rs. 3000/seat/month, up to Rs. 10 crores
★ Employment Generation Assistance up to Rs. 5000/employee/month up to Rs. 15 crores
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# Governor is working as a 'puppet' of Centre, says CM on MUDA 'scam' notice

He seeks to know the reason for the 'haste' with which Thaawarchand Gehlot issued a show-cause notice to him

**The Hindu Bureau**
MYSURU

Upping his ante against Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot for issuing a show-cause notice to him over the alleged irregularities in the allotment of sites by the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) to his wife, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday accused the former of working as a "puppet" in the hands of the Centre.

This came a day after the Council of Ministers held a meeting and asked the Governor to withdraw the "illegal and anti-constitutional" show-cause notice issued to the Chief Minister.

Speaking to reporters on his arrival in Mysuru before proceeding to review the flood situation in Kodagu, Mr. Siddaramaiah accused the Centre of misusing the Raj Bhavan to destabilise an elected State government, while calling upon the Governor to withdraw the notice immediately.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah speaking to reporters on his arrival at Mysuru airport on Friday.
M.A. SRIRAM

**'No role in it'**

Mr. Siddaramaiah emphasised that he had no role to play in the allotment of residential sites to his wife. He also accused T.J. Abraham, an activist whose complaint was the basis for the Governor issuing the show- cause notice, of being a "blackmailer" who had submitted such complaints against several people.

Describing the sequence of events, the Chief Minister said that on July 26, a complaint against him had been lodged at 11.30 a.m. The same day, his office received a call from the special officer in the Governor's office that a show-cause notice to the Chief Minister was ready to be collected. The notice was handed over the next day at 2 p.m. as it was late that day, Mr. Siddaramaiah said.

He sought to know the reason for the "haste" with which the Governor had issued a show-cause notice to the Chief Minister of a democratically elected government. "Before issuing a show-cause notice to the Chief Minister, shouldn't the Governor go through all legal aspects comprehensively?"

Though the Chief Secretary had sent a detailed explanation to the Governor the same day, the Raj Bhavan had not considered it. Also, Mr. Siddaramaiah pointed out that the State government had ordered a judicial probe into the matter on July 14, and a report was awaited, but the Governor had not considered the same.

**Advice**

Pointing out that the Governor was expected to act in accordance with the advice of the Council of Ministers as per the Constitution, Mr. Siddaramaiah sought to know from Mr. Gehlot if the Council of Ministers had given him any such advice.

When his attention was drawn to JD(S) leader and Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel H.D. Kumaraswamy's flip flop on his party's participation in the Bengaluru to Mysuru padayatra over the MUDA 'scam', Mr. Siddaramaiah referred to the JD(S) leader's reported statement questioning the purpose the padayatra at a time when people of Karnataka were struggling with heavy rain and floods. "It means he is not participating in the padayatra voluntarily," he said.

"The Chief Minister will also attend those programmes. We will seek answers from you [BJP-JD(S)] for your scams," he added.

**From Kengeri**

Meanwhile, the BJP is set to kickstart the padayatra at 8 a.m. near Kempamma temple at Kengeri. The inaugural programme will be attended by party State president B.Y. Vijayendra, Mr. Kumaraswamy, BJP central parliamentary board member and former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa, and BJP national general secretary and Karnataka State in-charge Radha Mohan Das Agarwal, among others.

The Janandolana programme will take place in Ramanagara, Channapatna, Maddur, Mandya, and Mysuru.

## Abraham warns of filing defamation case

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

T.J. Abraham, who has sought Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot's permission to prosecute Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in the alleged MUDA scam, said on Friday that Mr. Siddaramaiah should have answered the content of the show-cause notice issued by the Governor rather than use "defamatory" language to vilify the complainant.

"He should withdraw the statement against me and tender an apology in his interest. Otherwise, I will file a criminal defamation case against him," he warned. "Whatever happens, I will fight the case legally," he said in a video message and advised Mr. Siddaramaiah also to fight the case legally "like a statesman".

# Formulating internal quota among SCs a challenge for govt.

**Nagesh Prabhu**
BENGALURU

The Supreme Court judgment on Thursday, holding that States can sub-classify the Scheduled Castes (SCs) to give preferential reservation to the most backward among them, will pose a challenge for the Congress government in Karnataka as several groups are vying for higher share in the quota.

The Congress in its 2023 Assembly election manifesto promised to implement the Justice A.J. Sadashiva Commission report to provide internal reservation for the SCs. So far, the Congress government has been arguing that Dalit sub-quotas would be possible only if the Centre ensures amendment of Article 341 of the Constitution, but the Supreme Court judgment now empowers States to sub-classify the SC communities.

So far, the Congress government has been arguing that Dalit sub-quotas will be possible only if the Centre ensures amendment of Article 341 of the Constitution, but the Supreme Court judgment now empowers States to sub-classify the SC communities. FILE PHOTO

**Not homogenous**

The demand for internal quota has risen on the premise that sub-castes within the SCs are not a homogenised social denomination and there is intra-caste discrimination. The Sadashiva commission indicated that the SC 'Right' has got more benefits from reservation in education and employment than the other categories.

On March 24, 2023, the Basavaraj Bommai government announced an internal quota among 101 SC communities. It provided a quota of 6% to SC (Left), 5.5% to SC (Right), 4.5% to SC (Touchable), and 1% to SC (others). It hiked the quotas of SCs from 15% to 17% and STs from 3% to 7% based on the Justice H.N. Nagamohan Das Commission report and sent the proposal to the Centre. In the run-up to the 2023 polls, the Congress opposed this classification, arguing that it was aimed at securing the votes of the dominant class within the SCs.

**Two sides**

Legislators and leaders belonging to Banjaras (Lambanis), Bhovi, Koracha, and Korama have been opposed to the internal quota. For instance, the Banjara community, which has more than 45 lakh population spread across largely in north Karnataka and is said to have played a vital role in the victory of Congress candidates in close to 40 constituencies in the 2023 election, is opposed to the internal quota.

On the other hand, various SC groups are competing for more quota. For instance, Madiga community leaders argue that a bulk of the reservation is being cornered by Banjaras and Bhovis and are likely to intensify their demand for sub-quota in the coming days.

Karnataka SC/ST Contractors' Association president N. Mahadevaswamy said the "elite" members of the numerically and politically dominant castes within the SCs have gobbled up government jobs and reservation in educational institutions. BJP MP M. Govind Karjol, former Minister, has urged Mr. Siddaramaiah to stop all recruitment in the government till the announcement of the internal quota.

While Mr. Siddaramaiah has welcomed the apex court ruling and promised to implement the internal quota based on the Sadashiva commission report, the State government has to do a balancing act by taking all groups into confidence, say Dalit leaders.

**Sadashiva panel report**

The Sadashiva commission had studied methods of equitable distribution of reservation among the SCs by reclassifying 101 castes into four groups. It had recommended classification and quota of all SCs by dividing them into four groups of Left (6%), Right (5%), Touchable (3%) and Other SCs (1%) for equitable distribution of the overall quota of 15%, after a household survey. The Sadashiva commission was constituted by N. Dharam Singh government in 2005 and it submitted the report to Chief Minister D.V. Sadananda Gowda in 2012.

Several States, including Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar, and Tamil Nadu, formed commissions on internal quota in different years.

Political observers say that the demand for internal quota has cropped up largely owing to the decline of the erstwhile rainbow coalition comprising all social groups of the Congress and rise of caste-based regional parties in the 1980s and 1990s.

## Ministers urge CM, DKS to decide on the issue

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Ministers K.H. Muniyappa and R.B. Thimmapur, both belonging to the Scheduled Caste, on Friday termed as "historic" the Supreme Court ruling on internal quota and urged Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar to take an early decision to implement the internal quota for SCs.

K.H. Muniyappa

Both Ministers held a press conference and said the seven-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court had provided justice to various marginal groups among the SCs and fulfilled the three-decade-old demand. Former Social Welfare Minister H. Anjaneya, former MP L. Hanumanthaiah, and other Dalit leaders were present.

# Padayatra is of the corrupt, by the corrupt, for the corrupt: Shivakumar

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Friday termed the BJP-JD(S) padayatra against alleged irregularities in the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA), which is set to begin on Saturday, as a yatra "of the corrupt, by the corrupt, for the corrupt".

Speaking at 'Janandolana', a programme organised by the Congress to "expose the BJP scams", he said, "When the BJP-JD(S) padayatra reaches Bidadi, we want them to answer our questions on their ₹87-crore scam in the Bhovi Development Corporation and ₹47-crore scam in the APMCs that happened during their regime. I challenge them to answer within a week, else we will give the details of the scam." BJP MLC Veeraiah, he alleged, had committed a scam of ₹47 crore. "Why are the BJP and JD(S) not fighting this corruption and why did they not investigate this?" he asked.

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar participated in a bike rally while going to take part in a public meeting at Bidadi, near Bengaluru, on Friday.

**Challenges HDK**

Challenging Union Minister and JD(S) State president H.D. Kumaraswamy to disclose his and his family's assets, Mr. Shivakumar said, "I have details of Mr. Kumaraswamy and his family's assets. I know how the land transactions have taken place. His family has hundreds of acres near Bidadi and 200 to 250 acres near Kumbalgod. Let him tell the world how much land his family has near Gubbi, Chikkagubbi, Yelahanka, Hassan, and Nelamangala. Let him disclose the value of his property."

# HC directs govt. and police to consider BJP's representation seeking permission and protection for its padayatra

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Friday directed the State government and the Police Department to pass appropriate orders on the presentations submitted by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) seeking permission for taking out a padayatra from Kengeri in Bengaluru to Mysuru, from August 3 to 10, and extend police protection as per the law.

Justice Hemant Chandangoudar passed the interim order on a petition filed by P. Rajeev, BJP's State general secretary.

**Permission sought**

Appearing for the petitioner, Senior Advocate Aruna Shyam pointed out that the BJP's State president had on July 30 submitted representations to the State Police Chief and the Superintendents of Police in Mandya, Ramanagara, and Mysuru districts seeking permission for the peaceful padayatra and for police protection.

**No response**

As there was no response by the police, the petitioner sent reminders, through email on August 1 but the police had neither replied nor given any endorsement for the representations, it was contended. Pointing out that the padayatra is being organised to create awareness about the alleged multi-crore scams of Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Schedule Tribes Development Corporation Ltd. and the Mysuru Urban Development Authority, it has been contended in the petition that the government has "silenced the police authorities" to not give permission for it.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

With profound sadness, we regret to inform our beloved father

A SANKARA SUBRAMANIAN
Prop. Instruments & Equipments
attained His Lotus Feet on 02-08-2024 at 9:20 a.m
in grief
Mangalam (Wife)
(Children) Hamsa, Roopa, Anand and Ramachandran
Ph: +91 95660 01911

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

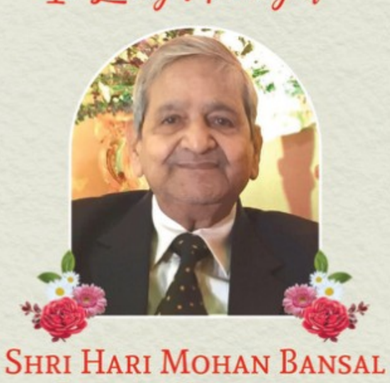
10th Anniversary

Shri S. NARASIMHAN
Assistant Divisional Manager (Retd)
LIC of India, Chennai.
We Miss You
Fondly Remembered by
Pushpavalli Narasimhan (wife)
& Family Members.

DEATH

MEENAKSHI STEEL

In Loving Memory of



SHRI HARI MOHAN BANSAL
FOUNDER OF MEENAKSHI STEEL
15 JUNE 1936 - 1 AUGUST 2024

IT IS WITH PROFOUND SADNESS THAT WE ANNOUNCE THE PASSING OF SHRI HARI MOHAN BANSAL, THE FOUNDER OF MEENAKSHI STEEL, WHOSE HARD WORK AND DILIGENCE TRANSFORMED OUR COMPANY INTO THE SUCCESS IT IS TODAY. HIS UNWAVERING COMMITMENT AND PASSION WERE THE DRIVING FORCES BEHIND EVERY ACHIEVEMENT, AND HIS LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE WILL CONTINUE TO INSPIRE US ALL. MEENAKSHI STEEL WAS MORE THAN A BUSINESS TO HIM; IT WAS HIS JOY AND PRIDE, A TESTAMENT TO HIS RELENTLESS PURSUIT OF INNOVATION AND QUALITY. HE ALWAYS BELIEVED THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS FOR A SUCCESSFUL LIFE ARE HONESTY AND HARD WORK, AND ONLY THEN DOES GOOD LUCK FOLLOW. THESE PRINCIPLES GUIDED HIS EVERY ENDEAVOR AND HELPED SHAPE OUR COMPANY'S CORE VALUES. AS WE MOURN HIS LOSS, WE ALSO CELEBRATE THE INDELIBLE MARK HE HAS LEFT ON OUR HEARTS AND THE INDUSTRY. HIS SPIRIT WILL FOREVER BE THE CORNERSTONE OF OUR CONTINUED GROWTH AND SUCCESS.

In Loving Memory
BANSAL FAMILY

# Two tales of survival kindle hope among Wayanad rescue workers

A tribal family, with three children, cocooned in a hollow in a rock face, was rescued by a forest team after a 7-km trek; Army and NDRF team combing Padavatti Kunnu found four members of a family in their surprisingly intact house

**The Hindu Bureau**
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Two gritty survival episodes provided a glimmer of hope for rescue workers scouring forests and far-flung hills in the landslide-flattened localities in Wayanad for signs of life.

On Friday, a forest team led by the Forest Range officer (Kalpetta) Ashif Keloth found Santha, a tribal woman, and her four-year-old son looking lost in the forests near Erattukunnu. The rugged locality is home to the Kattu Paniya tribe. Mr. Keloth told *The Hindu* in Wayanad that the tribe members were courteous but generally aloof in strangers' presence.

**Trekking to safety:** Army rescuing four members of a family from a landslide site on Friday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Mr. Keloth and his team had visited the locality after the landslide on July 30. They evacuated 24 tribe members to the quarters of a nearby plantation. He was surprised to find the lone tribal woman and her son in the deep jungle.

**Short on food**

After much convincing, Ms. Santha told the officer that her husband, Krishnan, and three children, aged 3, 2 and 1, had sought refuge in a hollow on a rock face a little distance from the Sentinel waterfall (Soochipara). She said the family was short on food.

Armed with ropes, the forest team trekked with the mother-son duo 7 km through a switchback of forested hills and dense valleys to reach the top of the rockface. The team then rappelled down the precipice to reach the cave where the rest of the family had taken refuge.

The team found the children naked and shivering. A few half-eaten fruits were strewn around. The forest enforcers used a torn blanket to secure the children to their bodies as their colleagues hauled them up the slithery and perilous escarpment.

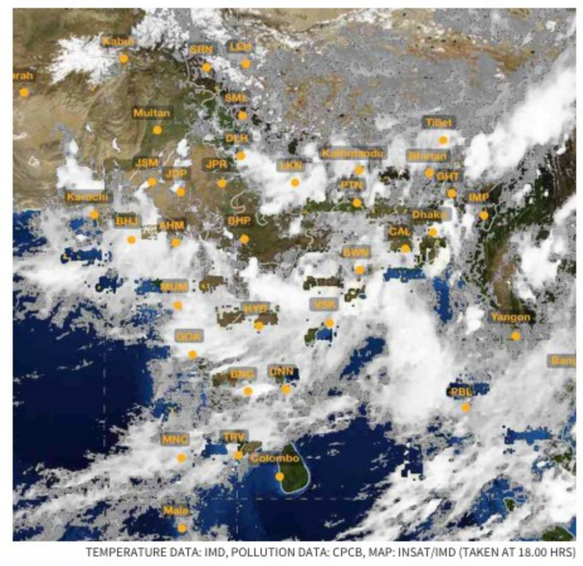
On Friday, an Army and NDRF team combing Padavatti Kunnu for survivors found four members of a family hunkering down in their surprisingly intact house. The house abutted one of the worst-hit and far-flung localities in Chooralmala. The survivors escaped the worst ravages of nature because their home was away from the path of the massive earthfall.

The family appeared shocked but willing to trek to safety with their Army escorts.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan lauded the Forest Department and Army for their bravery.

## WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday




TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

**Forecast for Saturday:** Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Gujarat, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Assam, Nagaland, Tripura, Sikkim, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, central Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Mahe

| CITY | RAIN | MAX | MIN | CITY | RAIN | MAX | MIN |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Agartala | 72 | 26.8 | 24.4 | Kozhikode | 34 | 30.9 | 24.4 |
| Ahmedabad | 21 | 28.9 | 25.9 | Kurnool | — | 33.2 | 26.2 |
| Aizawl | 14 | 25.7 | 22.7 | Lucknow | 0.2 | 34.4 | 26.6 |
| Allahabad | 53 | 32.4 | 25.9 | Madurai | — | 39.2 | 27.1 |
| Bengaluru | 3 | 27.5 | 20.6 | Mangaluru | 123 | 27.3 | 23.2 |
| Bhopal | 85 | 26.0 | 23.2 | Mumbai | 7 | 30.4 | 25.6 |
| Bhubaneswar | 0.1 | 31.0 | 25.5 | Mysuru | 4.8 | 28.0 | 20.0 |
| Chandigarh | — | 35.4 | 27.2 | New Delhi | 2 | 33.4 | 26.5 |
| Chennai | — | 35.2 | 29.4 | Patna | 6 | 31.2 | 25.5 |
| Coimbatore | 0.5 | 30.2 | 22.8 | Port Blair | 2 | 30.2 | 25.7 |
| Dehradun | — | 33.5 | 24.8 | Puducherry | — | 36.3 | 26.8 |
| Gangtok | 45 | 20.1 | 18.9 | Pune | 23.8 | 26.5 | 22.8 |
| Goa | 28 | 29.0 | 24.8 | Raipur | 19 | — | 24.6 |
| Guwahati | — | 31.7 | 27.0 | Ranchi | 41 | 24.6 | 23.1 |
| Hubballi | — | 25.0 | 23.0 | Shillong | 5 | 20.9 | 17.5 |
| Hyderabad | 0.4 | 30.7 | 24.5 | Shimla | 6 | 26.8 | 20.7 |
| Imphal | 9 | 29.1 | 21.1 | Srinagar | 25 | 33.4 | 21.3 |
| Jaipur | 82 | 29.3 | 24.6 | Thiruvananthapuram | 4 | 32.5 | 24.3 |
| Kochi | 40 | 30.0 | 24.2 | Tiruchi | — | 37.7 | 27.0 |
| Kohima | 29 | 26.5 | 17.5 | Vijayawada | — | 34.4 | 27.2 |
| Kolkata | 52 | 31.5 | 25.8 | Visakhapatnam | 2 | 31.6 | 25.8 |

*(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)*

**Pollutants in the air you are breathing**

| CITIES | $SO_2$ | $NO_2$ | CO | PM2.5 | PM10 | CODE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ahmedabad | .32 | .28 | .47 | 55 | 78 | |
| Bengaluru | .14 | .34 | .75 | 41 | 49 | |
| Chennai | 4 | 7 | .62 | 150 | 139 | |
| Delhi | 9 | 149 | .74 | 60 | 43 | |
| Hyderabad | 6 | .20 | .27 | 46 | 87 | |
| Kolkata | 8 | .61 | .19 | 29 | 39 | |
| Lucknow | 9 | 6 | .34 | 53 | 45 | |
| Mumbai | .— | .70 | .49 | 19 | 33 | |
| Pune | .— | .21 | 102 | 28 | 24 | |
| Visakhapatnam | .10 | .49 | .35 | 49 | 103 | |

**Yesterday**

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Mandi Gobindgarh, Punjab recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 216 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Aizawl, Mizoram recorded a healthy AQI score of 11

**Air Quality Code:** Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

**$SO_2$:** Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

**$NO_2$:** Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

**CO:** Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

**PM2.5 & PM10:** Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

# Congress will build 100 houses for survivors: Rahul

**The Hindu Bureau**
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Rahul Gandhi, Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, has said the Congress party will construct 100 houses for the survivors of the landslides in Wayanad.

Speaking to reporters after visiting survivors and families of the dead in Wayanad on Friday, Mr. Gandhi described the landslides as a "terrible tragedy" and it should be treated differently. The Congress MP said he is going to raise the matter in Delhi and with Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan as "this is a different level of tragedy and should be treated differently".

Right now the focus is on finding the bodies and potential survivors, making sure that the displaced are comfortable in relief camps, and rehabilitating them, he said.

The MP said rehabilitation is going to be very important as a lot of survivors told him that they did not want to go back to the landslides-hit areas. "So, I think it is important that they are rehabilitated in a safe area and are not forced to go back. These are the things that we have already raised with the Kerala government," he said.

Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and K.C. Venugopal visit Wayanad on Friday. ANI

# NGT impleads Kerala, T.N. in *suo motu* case on Wayanad landslides

**The Hindu Bureau**
CHENNAI

The Southern Bench of the National Green Tribunal has taken *suo motu* cognisance of the devastating landslides in Wayanad and has directed the Kerala and Tamil Nadu governments to file reports on landslide-prone areas in the two States.

The Bench comprising Justice Pushpa Sathyanarayana and expert member Satyagopal Korlapati on August 2 expressed deep concerns about the incident, which has claimed 210 lives so far in Mundakkai and Chooralmala, in Wayanad.

When the standing counsel for Kerala noted that nearly 90% of the houses at the incident sites were part of earlier settlements, Justice Sathyanarayana remarked that the terrain, characterised by loose soil rather than rocky ground, can only support a limited amount of development.

She then questioned the State governments' reluctance to implement the recommendations from the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel, led by ecologist Madhav Gadgil, and the High-Level Working Group, chaired by renowned scientist K. Kasturirangan.

The next hearing on the matter has been posted on September 9.

# NIA files supplementary chargesheet in Praveen Nettaru murder case

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed a supplementary chargesheet against two accused for harbouring Mustafa Paichar, the key conspirator in the murder of Praveen Nettaru, a BJP Yuva Morcha leader.

Praveen Nettaru, a district committee member of BJP Yuva Morcha, was murdered with sharp weapons in public in 2022. The NIA took over the investigation on August 4, 2022, under various provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. To date, 19 individuals have been arrested in connection with this case.

Mustafa Paichar, who had been absconding, was located in Sakaleshpura, Hassan district, and arrested along with Mansoor Pasha, who had allegedly been harbouring him on May 10, 2024. Paichar, who the NIA claims to be the main conspirator, was allegedly the master trainer of the PFI Service Team in the State. He had allegedly scouted, and identified Praveen Nettaru as the target.

Further investigations revealed that Riyaz H.Y., another accused chargesheeted today, had also harboured Paichar, NIA claimed in a statement. Riyaz H.Y. was apprehended by the NIA at Mumbai International Airport Both accused are charged under sections 120B and 212 of the IPC and section 19 of the UAPA, 1967, for their alleged involvement in this case.

# Develop nanotech solutions for food safety, water purification: Siddaramaiah

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah urged scientists and engineers in Karnataka to come up with innovative nanotechnology-based solutions for food security, energy security, water purification, infrastructure, medicine, health care and waste management as well as tools and technologies to combat environmental hazards, which are expected to increase many fold in the near future due to urbanisation, population growth and change in lifestyle.

Delivering the inaugural address at the 13th edition of three-day Bengaluru India Nano on Friday, the Chief Minister said international research collaboration is fundamental for harnessing the potential of emerging nano technology through exchange of information, technology transfer, sharing of costs, risks, access to know-how as well as to develop talent pool towards common good of humanity.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah presenting the Prof. C.N.R. Rao Bengaluru India Nano Science Award to Arindam Ghosh, professor, IISc, in Bengaluru on Friday. Eminent scientist C.N.R. Rao was present. K. MURALI KUMAR

"I invite our young entrepreneurs to seize the opportunity to establish their new ventures in Karnataka based on collaboration and co-operation with visionary leaders and experts," he said. This government will provide all possible support for emerging entrepreneurs to make Karnataka as a favourable ecosystem for the growth of this sunrise industry. "Karnataka is always in the forefront with respect to technology-based innovation," he added.

"I am quite confident that, with the support of premier research institutions, like IISc, JNCASR, NCBS, and CeNS, Bengaluru will be transformed into the nano tech hub of India, and will keep up its eminent position in this emerging technology in the years to come," he said.

Prof. Arindam Ghosh received the Prof. C.N.R. Rao Bengaluru India Nano Science Award at the event.

# Boy falls on metro track in Bengaluru

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

**He was playing with his sibling on the platform at Baiyappanahalli station**

A four-year-old boy accidentally fell on the Namma Metro track at Baiyappanahalli station on Thursday night. He suffered minor injuries.

According to a statement from Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL), the boy was playing with his sibling on platform number 2 while waiting for a train when he accidentally fell on the track at 9.08 p.m.

The Station Controller immediately used the Emergency Trip System (ETS) and informed the operators of trains approaching Baiyappanahalli. At the same time, the ETS on both platforms (1 and 2) were activated by security guards.

"The boy was brought back to the platform. The Station Controller reached the platform and examined the boy. He found scratches behind the boy's left ear, but no major injury. The boy and his mother were escorted to Sir C.V. Raman Hospital by a security guard," officials said.

While doctors at the hospital found no abnormalities, they advised that the boy be taken to Victoria Hospital for further tests. He underwent scanning Victoria Hospital. The reports showed no abnormalities. Hence, he was discharged.

Train services were disrupted until 9.15 p.m.

# New law is beneficial to Kodavas as it confers full ownership of Jamma Bane land on them: Karnataka HC

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Upholding the Constitutional validity of the Karnataka Land Revenue (Third Amendment) Act, 2011, the High Court of Karnataka has held that the amendment is not against the interest of the Kodava family system or tradition, but on the contrary, the amendment confers full ownership rights on the Jamma Bane land in Kodagu district and is beneficial legislation in favour of the Kodavas.

"It is clear that by way of the amendment what is achieved is to grant full ownership of the land to the

Kodava family, including all division holders i.e., all members of the family, in a land which earlier had stood vested in the government and the government was the owner thereof," said Justice Suraj Govindaraj in his verdict. This cannot be said to be in violation of any custom, tradition or usage of the Kodava community, he said.

**What petition said**

The court made these observations in its July 25 verdict while dismissing the petitions filed by Brigadier Maletira A. Devaiah (retd) and 42 other Kodavas, who had questioned the constitutional validity of the amendment made to Sections 2 and 80 of the KLR Act, 1964.

The petitioners had claimed that the amendment would "disrupt the Kodava family system" and their joint family customs and traditions as it compels them to divide the land. While analysing the history and verdicts of courts on Jamma Bane landholding among Kodavas, the court said it cannot be contended by the petitioners that there was "always an embargo for a member of a Kodava family to alienate his property to a third party and/or for partition to be effected amongst the members of the Kodava family".

Pointing out that the classification of Jamma Bane land was made on the basis of the land tenure system and not on the basis of customs or usage of Kodavas, Mr. Justice Govindaraj said, "Thus, in my opinion, there is no custom, usage or tradition, which can be said to be in existence prohibiting the alienation or partition of the property of a Kodava family."

By referring to laws banning child marriage and dowry, the court also said that neither a Statute nor an amendment to the Statute can be questioned on the basis of the Statute or amendment thereto being violative of customs, usage or traditions.

**Equality**

"There is equality brought about between the Kodavas and other occupants of the land inasmuch as the Kodavas could not have filed an application for regularisation or grant of occupancy rights as regards Jamma Bane land prior to the amendment," the court pointed out.

Whereas persons residing in other parts of the State could make an application for grant of occupancy rights as regards the land which they were in occupation of in an authorised or unauthorised manner, the court said.

**Partition not required**

Clearing the petitioner's apprehensions, the court said there would be no requirement for partition to be effected among the members of the Kodava family in view of the amendment. What is required is that the entire family's names would be registered in the land records as the occupant of the Jamma Bane land.

**Granted full access**

Earlier, the government was the owner of even Jamma Bane land, including timber and trees on such lands, and by virtue of the amendment, the Kodava family is now granted full ownership of the land, which automatically vests the ownership of timber, standing trees, etc., on the land with the family/individual, the court said.

# Tirumala getting ready for annual Brahmotsavams

**The Hindu Bureau**
TIRUMALA

Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) Executive Officer J. Shyamala Rao on Friday said extensive preparations were under way for the annual Brahmotsavams of Lord Venkateswara, beginning October 4.

He told the media that work was in full swing and would be completed by the end of September.

The *pushkarini* (temple tank) has been closed since August 1 for renovation and maintenance works, and the '*Pushkarini Harathi*' rituals will remain suspended till August 31, Mr. Rao said.

## Weakest first

### Allowing sub-quotas to least advanced among SCs deepens social justice

The jurisprudence of affirmative action has been evolving constantly. From a notion of formal equality rooted in a general principle of non-discrimination, it has reached a point where the aim is substantive equality. Reservation is no more seen as an exception to the equality norm, but as a deepening of the idea of equality by embracing diversity and accommodation of those suffering from historical and social disabilities. The latest Supreme Court judgment allowing States to classify Scheduled Castes (SC) into groups and give preferential treatment to the weaker and more backward among them is in line with this progression. By a majority of 6:1, the Court has rejected the idea that the SCs constitute a single homogenous class and that sub-classification will violate the equality rule. The verdict dislodges a 2005 Constitution Bench judgment (*E.V. Chinnaiah vs AP*) that had struck down an Andhra Pradesh law classifying SC communities into groups as unconstitutional. The Court had then ruled that once the President notifies the list of SCs under Article 341, Parliament alone could modify it by law, and that States were barred from "tinkering" with the list. This judgment was cited by the Punjab and Haryana High Court while quashing a preferential sub-quota for Balmikis and Mazhabi Sikhs within the SC quota. When the matter came to the apex court, a Bench doubted the correctness of *E.V. Chinnaiah* and referred the question to a larger Bench.

The majority verdict is based on a clear recognition that SCs do not constitute a homogeneous class. Under the Presidential List, they have a common constitutional status, but it does not mean that there are no differences in the extent of backwardness among them. A history of untouchability is indeed a common feature among them, but there is historical and empirical evidence that the level of advancement is not uniform. States are empowered to further identify the weaker sections among SCs and extend beneficial treatment. Four judges have taken the view that excluding the "creamy layer" among the SCs from reservation benefits is necessary to give full effect to the principle that the weakest should get the benefits of affirmative action and not be elbowed out by those more advanced than them. Applying the 'creamy layer' concept, hitherto confined to OBCs may not be easy. Justice B.R. Gavai, who writes in support of the exclusion of the better-off among the SCs, also notes that the creamy layer norms cannot be the same as those prescribed for the OBCs. The exclusion of the more advanced sections among Dalits was not an issue before the Bench, and the opinions may be non-binding as of now. While excluding the creamy layer may happen some day, the focus should be on the marginalised among Dalits getting adequate representation.

## Stealing the vote

### Maduro seems to have resorted to irregularities to hold on to power

On Nicolás Maduro's watch, Venezuela's economy contracted 80% in less than a decade. Some 7.8 million Venezuelans fled from the economic hardships. If extreme poverty was at 11% in 2013, the year Hugo Chávez died and Mr. Maduro ascended to presidency, it now stands at 53%, while household poverty is much higher, at 82%, as per the UN. The oil-rich country had witnessed anti-government protests in recent years which were met with crackdowns. Before the July 28 presidential election, opinion polls showed that Edmundo González, the main opposition candidate, had a 20-point lead over the President. But none of these seemed to have mattered in the election, according to official results. Mr. Maduro won 51% of the vote, while Mr. Gonzalez secured 44%, said Venezuela's election authority. Mr. Maduro can now extend his rule for six more years. But the opposition has reported widespread irregularities in the counting, and accused the President and his allies in state institutions of stealing the vote. According to the opposition, its vote tallies show that Mr. González won some 7.1 million votes against Mr. Maduro's 3.2 million. Anti-Maduro protests broke out after the official results were announced. And the government is yet to release detailed voter data.

Mr. Maduro is not singularly responsible for the economic crisis. Chavez, a former tank commander who rose to power through elections, defied the liberal economic orthodoxy and built a new welfare state that was funded by oil revenues. By the time Mr. Maduro, who lacked his predecessor's charisma, came to power, falling oil prices had dealt a blow to Venezuela's economy. The sanctions by the Trump administration on the oil industry, pushed the economy to the brink of collapse. Mr. Maduro's response was to tighten his grip on power. His regime seemed helpless when Venezuela was gripped by hyperinflation and scarcity of essential goods and medicines. In the run-up to the elections, the government had promised a free and fair vote. But even before the campaign started, María Corina Machado, the opposition's most popular candidate, was banned from contesting. Mr. Maduro has rejected the opposition's claims of fraud after the vote, but he is also under pressure. The U.S. on Thursday recognised Mr. González as the winner and called for a peaceful transition. Even Mr. Maduro's leftist allies in Latin America, including Colombia and Brazil, have called for full and transparent voting data. Mr. Maduro now has the support of the military. But the deepening divisions at home and isolation abroad would continue to pose questions of legitimacy to his presidency.

# The five guidelines to a Dragon-Elephant tango

**Xu Feihong**

the 17th Chinese Ambassador to India

I arrived in New Delhi, on May 10, as the 17th Chinese Ambassador to India, and presented the letter of credence to the President of India, Droupadi Murmu, on May 31. Over the past three months, I have met many Indian friends from all walks of life and visited two other States. I am glad to see that this land, which has nurtured a splendid ancient civilization, is brimming with new vitality. I am also deeply impressed by the broad public support for China-India friendship, and the confidence and the expectations for bilateral relations.

**Five guidelines of 'Mutuals'**

China and India are close neighbours. We learned from each other in ancient times, shared weal and woe in modern times, and have a common cause of rejuvenation today. China-India relations have become one of the most important bilateral relations. President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi attach great importance to China-India relations, and have reached an important consensus that China and India are not rivals or threats to each other, but are partners in cooperation and development opportunities. This provides a clear direction for the development of bilateral relations. We need to figure out how to implement it. Foreign Minister Wang Yi met with India's External Affairs Minister S.Jaishankar twice recently, and stressed that China and India should adhere to mutual respect, mutual understanding, mutual trust, mutual accommodation and mutual accomplishment. The "Five Mutuals" provide a significant path for us to implement the above consensus. They should also be the guiding principles for the two big neighbours to get along well. Against the backdrop of profound changes unseen in a century, I believe that the "Five Mutuals" are conducive to bring China-India relations back to a stable and sound track.

Mutual respect is the prerequisite for the development of China-India relations. As an Indian proverb goes, "*jaisa des waisa bhes*" (which roughly means 'adapt the environment in which you are living'). Not long ago, I visited Maharashtra, attended a traditional Indian wedding, wore local folk costumes and tasted *masala* tea. I realise that as two ancient civilisations, both China and India have their own uniqueness in terms of dietary habits, lifestyles, cultural traditions and development paths. However, these differences did not impede us from attracting and inspiring each other in history. In the new era, it is of even greater significance for us to view each other with an open mind, respect each other's development path, social system and role on the world stage, and jointly promote development and prosperity of the two countries, the region and the world.

> The formulation of 'five mutuals' can help bring China-India relations back to a stable and sound track

Mutual understanding is the basis of the development of China-India relations. The two peoples empathised with and supported each other in their respective struggles for national independence and liberation. China understands India's aspiration for national rejuvenation, and supports India's foreign policy of strategic autonomy. We are both among the largest developing countries. No country understands better than China what a great cause it is to enable more than 1.4 billion Indians to live a good life, and how much effort it requires. Meanwhile, when I interacted with the Indian people, I found that the exchanges and understanding between us are not enough. We need to further promote dialogue and communication at all levels in various fields, encourage the two peoples to have more exchanges, and promote mutual understanding and political trust, so as to consolidate the political and public foundation for the development of bilateral relations.

Mutual trust is the key to the development of China-India relations. The international situation is more volatile and uncertain than before. More and more people have realised that as being among the largest developing countries, China and India should avoid mutual suspicion and attrition in order to rise together. We need to view bilateral relations from a strategic perspective, form the right perception of each other, view each other's strategic intentions objectively, and stick to the right vision – that China and India are partners and development opportunities to each other instead of being rivals or threats. We could work together for peaceful coexistence and insist on resolving disputes in a peaceful manner. With political trust, not even the Himalayas can stop us from strengthening friendly exchanges. Without it, not even level land can bring us together. The Chinese people are willing to be good friends and partners of the Indian people forever, living in harmony and pursuing common development.

**An 'all-round relationship'**

Mutual accommodation is the guarantee of the development of China-India relations. China and India are neighbours who cannot be moved away. It is natural for us to have differences and frictions. The key is to form a correct perception of differences and handle them in a proper manner. As we both inherit the political wisdom of ancient oriental civilisations, it is believed that we can find effective ways to mutually accommodate each other's core interests and major concerns, properly handle differences through dialogue, and reach a mutually acceptable solution. Meanwhile, our relationship is all-round and cannot be defined by certain differences, and our cooperation cannot be disrupted by a single incident.

Mutual accomplishment is the direction of the development of China-India relations. As important emerging economies, China and India are both at a critical stage of national development and revitalisation, and enjoy broad common interests and the space for cooperation. The third plenary session of the 20th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, which concluded recently, launched a new journey of comprehensively deepening reform. China is advancing Chinese modernisation on all fronts, which will provide new opportunities to the world. India also has the vision of "Viksit Bharat 2047". China hopes to develop itself well and wishes India the same. We are glad to see India make new achievements in national development and play a constructive role in international and regional affairs. We would like to work with India to help each other succeed, achieve common development and revitalisation, promote the unity and cooperation of the Global South, and join hands to build a community with a shared future for mankind.

**From the principles of peaceful coexistence**

The "Five Mutuals" carry forward and further develop the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, and echo the "mutual respect, mutual sensitivity and mutual interests" proposed by the Indian leader. They are also a useful guide for both sides to implement the important consensus reached by the two leaders. I believe that they will be understood and recognised by the Indian side. It is normal to have ups and downs in China-India relations. I believe that as two great ancient civilisations, both sides can look beyond the horizon and steer bilateral relations in the right direction, and jointly usher in a new future. In June 2024, I attended the inauguration of the new campus of Nalanda University in Bihar, and visited its ancient ruins where Monk Xuanzang studied nearly 1,400 years ago. I deeply recognise that we had close historical and cultural ties. In the 21st century, there is no reason why we cannot develop bilateral relations well.

President Xi Jinping stated that if China and India speak with one voice, the whole world will listen. Prime Minister Modi said India and China are "two bodies with one spirit". A "Dragon-Elephant Tango" is the only correct choice for the two sides.

I firmly believe that under the strategic guidance of the two leaders, both sides have enough wisdom and the capability to handle bilateral relations well and forge a right path for the neighbouring countries to coexist in harmony and develop hand in hand.

# An unstated shift in Modi's economic direction

**Praveen Chakravarty**

Chairman, All India Professionals' Congress

"We are nudging industry to use less automation and more labour," said Finance Secretary T.V. Somanathan in a post-Budget interview. He was referring to the Narendra Modi government's Budget announcement of a new employment linked incentive (ELI) scheme for corporates. Under the scheme, companies will be provided a financial incentive for every new employee they hire. Dozens of commentators and experts have critiqued it and have questioned the assumption that a company will hire more people, merely for a financial incentive. This is a myopic and technocratic analysis that misses a fundamental shift in economic thought. The Finance Secretary's statement symbolises a significant and profound change in the economic policy direction of the Modi government. It signals a recognition of the misplaced faith in chasing GDP growth, the big capital-labour skew, and the need for course correction.

**Initiatives that did not work well**

For a decade, the Modi government's economic philosophy was the traditional Washington Consensus' trickle-down development model that emphasised the efficient production of goods and services, in the assumption that it would automatically lead to jobs, incomes and prosperity for people. When companies produce, GDP grows, and jobs are created, was the doctrine. 'Make in India', which was launched in 2014, was this quintessential example that aimed to spur manufacturing in the hope that it would make companies hire large numbers of workers. In 2019, the Modi government made a sudden off-Budget announcement of a big cut in corporate tax rates for companies, again in the hope that it would lure industry to invest more, which would then trickle down to more jobs. In 2020, the government announced a new production linked incentive (PLI) scheme of a whopping ₹2 lakh crore as financial incentives to be provided to companies based on the achieving of certain production targets. Once again, the intent was to incentivise companies financially to produce more, which would then lead to more jobs. Of course, we know now that none of these initiatives yielded the expected number of jobs. Companies either pocketed the tax cuts without investing or they invested more in equipment than in hiring people. Simply put, production incentives or tax cuts for corporates neither trickled nor dripped down to enough people through jobs and incomes.

> The new ELI scheme for corporates is an acknowledgement by the Narendra Modi government of the breakdown between GDP growth and jobs

ELI is a recognition of this failure and a change in course to provide direct incentives to corporates to employ people rather than through indirect trickle-down means. After all, if one agrees that production incentives can entice companies to produce more by lowering marginal production costs, then, by the same logic, employment incentives should propel companies to hire more people by lowering marginal labour costs. ELI must be viewed in the context of PLI and not as a standalone idea for job creation. PLI is an incentive for the economy to pour more into the top of a funnel. ELI is an incentive to collect more at the bottom of the funnel, which is the eventual objective anyway.

ELI is the first such policy of the Modi government that acknowledges the breakdown between GDP growth and jobs. If the ultimate goal of economic development is to improve the living standards of the median citizen, then the neo-liberal economic development paradigm of chasing GDP growth has run its course because it has stopped translating into jobs and prosperity for people. Which is why the bombastic rhetoric about India being the fastest growing economy in the world has no significance for the average Indian. The natural next step then is to call for direct policy interventions for jobs for people, rather than for economic output. And a PLI to ELI transition is the first attempt in this shift in economic direction.

**It can make a difference**

ELI by itself may not incentivise corporates to create more jobs. But it can impact firm level decisions at the margin, of buying equipment versus hiring more people. Ceteris paribus, an ELI scheme encourages firms to hire people rather than use machines. When a million small, medium and large enterprises are 'ELI nudged' to choose labour over machines (capital), it can make a meaningful difference to overall job creation.

Neo-liberal economists, for whom technology-led productivity and efficiency are the cornerstones of economic development, would deem ELI blasphemous. Their argument is that it would render Indian companies less productive and, hence, less competitive globally. They are partially justified in their fears but the current model of development that prizes capital over labour and headline GDP over jobs is unsustainable in a democratic society.

**Jobs deficit and ideas deficit**

The shortage of jobs is the root cause of dangerous and foolhardy proposals such as the recent one in Karnataka to reserve all jobs for locals. When there are very few jobs generated overall in the economy, political compulsions in a democracy are bound to induce a mad rush to grab as many of the few available jobs for their voters. It is intellectually dishonest to merely criticise such proposals but not provide concrete ideas to create new jobs. India not only has a jobs deficit but also an ideas deficit to bridge the jobs deficit. The stock response by economists for creating more jobs is the much abused 'R" word – reforms. Their standard refrain is that a concoction of labour, education, skills and ease of doing business reforms is the magic pill to create more jobs, which is easier written than done.

ELI may or may not work to create additional jobs, but it is certainly a concrete new idea to alleviate the capital-labour imbalance and jobless growth woes of India's economy. More importantly, it marks a distinct shift in policy direction from trickle-down economics to bottom-up interventions. "India is ready for ELI, regardless of whose idea it is" was the last line in my article in a daily on the morning of Budget 2024. Just a few hours later, much to my utter surprise, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced the ELI scheme in Parliament. ELI was proposed in the Congress's manifesto, and it is extremely laudable that the Finance Minister chose to keep politics aside to adopt this idea in the larger national interest.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Endless quotas?**

After the top court's verdict, it will be a case of sub-classifications and more quotas (Page 1, August 2). It could become a mammoth task to settle for these from an objective and political angle. Our political leaders could also begin to manipulate quotas to suit their political needs.

**Gopalaswamy J.,**
Chennai

States must act with care and the identification of groups should be based on unchallengeable evidence and reason. The categorisation should not be made or perceived to be made on political reasons.

**Dr. D.V.G. Sankara Rao,**
Vizianagaram, Andhra Pradesh

**Rail coaches**

The Railway Minister appears to be content with the ratio of 2:1 between non-air-conditoned and air-conditioned coaches on trains ("Railways will soon add 2,500 general coaches, says Minister", August 2). Previously, the ratio was around 4:1. This has resulted in a significant shortage of seats in the lower classes, as seen by multiple ground reports of passengers crammed like sardines in the general and sleeper coaches. He could have clarified whether the share of air-conditioned coaches would increase after the new arrivals.

**Kamal Laddha,**
Bengaluru

**Corrections & Clarifications**

Ms. Preeti Sudan is the fourth woman to head the UPSC, and not second as mentioned in a report, "Preeti Sudan appointed Chairperson of UPSC" (August 1, 2024).

**Sombre recovery** A body being transported across the river using a rope and pulley by rescue personnel at the landslide hit Chooralmala. THULASI KAKKAT

# Death rains on Wayanad

Over 200 people died, two settlements were wiped out, and one severely impacted, after heavy rains caused a landslip in north-east Kerala's hilly district. **Abdul Latheef Naha** finds a land battered beyond recognition, with about 500 injured and many still missing. Even as support from across India pours in, questions are raised about why this happened

*Trigger warning: The following article has disturbing details.*

In the early, dark hours of July 30, Nature staged a macabre dance on two sleepy villages in the lap of the Vellarimala hill range in the Western Ghats. In a few minutes, roughly 200 households in the biggest ever landslide in Kerala's history, were wiped out.

When the sun rose in the morning, Mundakkai and Chooralmala, twin settlements in Wayanad's Vellarimala village in Meppadi panchayat had vanished, transforming a landscape of rolling hills into a horrifying trail of havoc. Two landslides, at about 1 a.m. and 4:10 a.m. have killed over 200 people so far and injured about 500. The number of people missing is nearly 300.

The Indian Space Research Organisation's National Remote Sensing Centre would later release satellite images showing that 86,000 square metres of land had simply slipped out of place. The swift flowing debris, from crown to run-out zone, lasted 8 kilometres. The crown zone was "a reactivation of an older landslide," it observed. The landslide plunged into the Iruvazhinjipuzha, one of the tributaries of the Chaliyar river, swollen with the rain. Both raged and burst their banks. The combination of cascading heavy mud and gushing water took its toll.

Now, families count missing loved ones. Every family has losses, some more than others. "I lost my sister Afeeda, her husband Sattar, and their children Filu, Adi, and Sanu at Mundakkai. Twenty-five members of Sattar's family have disappeared," says Sakeer K., a construction worker who had asked his sister to come to his house at Nellimunda, a couple of kilometres away, far from the river. "I feared for them as it was raining unusually heavily that night."

> I lost my sister Afeeda, her husband Sattar, and their children.... Twenty-five members of Sattar's family have disappeared
>
> **SAKEER K.**
> Construction worker

Jitika Prem, a dance teacher from Mundakkai, shudders at the thought of her missing students. She attempts to describe how she and her family ran out of their house to safety when giant rocks and logs flattened their home. She lost her cousins Sivan, Jijina, and Pramodini, who were found in a huddle, in death. Many gathered in a resort near Mundakkai to shelter.

The last time Kerala witnessed devastation like this was during the floods of 2018 that claimed 433 lives and affected over 5.4 million people. The Puthumala tragedy of August 2019 left 17 dead and flattened 58 houses.

Rescue and relief was quick, with over 1,800 personnel coming in, from the Indian Army, Navy, and Airforce; Indian Coast Guard Disaster Relief Team; and the National and State level Disaster Response Forces. State forces from the police, forest, excise, and motor vehicle departments are providing logistical support.

## Forewarned but unarmed

The first landslide took place at around 1 a.m. The thunderous sound of the floodwaters woke people up, but many could not get out of their houses in time. Local WhatsApp groups were soon flooded with screams for help. The cry of a woman named Minnath went viral as it was forwarded from group to group. "Many people are stuck in their homes. Please come; help us. The house behind Basheerka's shop is gone. I don't know what happened to my husband." Her cries were heard, and she was saved by local people.

Onapparambil Moidu hung on to a ceiling fan after standing on a cot along with his daughter and her eight-month-old child. The swirling water and mud reached his neck. At that point, he says he made the most decisive move of his life, to get through a half open door. "I stared death in the face. The bypass surgery I recently underwent has weakened me. I mustered all my energy; my daughter hung on to my back, and I held my grandchild over my head. We pushed ourselves through the mud for about 250 metres," recounts Moidu, at a relief camp at Government Higher Secondary School, Meppadi town, about 15 km from the disaster zone. His feet were bandaged for injuries he suffered during the escape. Two camps in Meppadi of the 82 camps across Wayanad are catering to survivors. They are established in a government and a private school.

Moidu's was a two-storey concrete house, about 50 metres from the Iruvazhinji that flowed through Chooralmala. Nothing of it remains now. "I lost my wife's mother, her sister, her husband, and their children in Mundakkai. Several of my family and friends have disappeared," he says. Then adds, "If the first landslide was a test dose, then the second was nature's prescription."

## Deadly deluge

When he heard the news of the first landslide, Wayanad District Panchayat president Samshad Marakkar reached Chooralmala at 2 a.m. along with his friends. "The second landslide came after 4 a.m. unleashing the sound of a dinosaur in a DTS theatre. It was so huge that it wiped out everything in its path. I retrieved the first body of a man that morning, followed by that of a girl, and took them to hospital," he says.

The landslide took away people in their sleep and brought their mangled bodies to the Chaliyar downstream at Munderi. Many bodies went through the steep waterfalls of Soochippara, Kanthanpara, and Meenmutty before reaching Munderi in Pothukal near Nilambur.

It knocked down a bridge connecting Chooralmala with Mundakkai and Attamala, the Shiva temple of Chooramala, a mosque at Mundakkai, a Government Vocational Higher Secondary School in Vellarimala, and houses and business establishments. A few resorts were destroyed.

"I had several of my friends in Mundakkai and Attamala. They are missing," said Dheera Singh, a tea estate labourer from Madhya Pradesh, as he stands dazed at the site where the Shiva temple had stood. A ficus tree next to the temple site still stands, a witness to what is lost. So does a portion of the large temple auditorium. Temple priest Kumar Swamy's body was recovered and taken to his home State of Tamil Nadu. Mundakkai Masjid Imam Shihab Faizy Qayyoomi's body was retrieved from the Chaliyar at Pothukal. The landslide took away a portion of the masjid in which Qayyoomi was sleeping.

Shailaja K.M., who used to help Kumar Swamy clean the bronze lamps at the Chooralmala temple, says Shiva helped them get out of the chest-deep water. "My children and I gathered in one room as floodwaters began rising. We thought we would die. I sent messages on WhatsApp to my brothers, bidding them farewell," she remembers. They managed to push through the mud to safety. "We climbed to the second floor of our neighbour Azeez's house," says Shailaja.

It was pitch dark as the power lines had snapped. Some with clothes on and some without, ran into the coffee and cardamom plantations nearby to escape. There, they confronted elephants, but remained safe. "We realised that the wild elephant understood our plight. The tusker did nothing to us," whimpers Sujata, who was trapped in front of an elephant in the dark chilly night.

## Trauma and support

Until the Army constructed a Bailey bridge across the Iruvazhinjipuzha, using prefabricated trusses on August 1 evening, the search for bodies in Mundakkai was hard, as rescue teams and machines could not make it across the river. "The bridge will make a big difference in the search operation. We have to search the whole area using earth movers and other heavy equipment. It will speed up the search and rescue operation," says Maj. Gen. V.T. Mathew, general officer commanding (GOC) of Kerala and Karnataka sub-area, in charge of the rescue operations at Mundakkai.

People stranded at Attamala after the landslide, being evacuated via a temporary bridge THULASI KAKKAT

> The bridge is going to make a big difference in the search operation.... It will speed up the rescue and search operation
>
> **MAJ. GEN. V.T. MATHEW**
> GOC, Kerala and Karnataka sub-area

Search teams too had harrowing experiences to report. "When our men entered a mud-covered abandoned house, they were anguished to see the bodies of three children huddling on a sofa under the concrete rubble. Similarly, they found the body of a man lying peacefully on a cot in another house," said a Fire and Rescue Services senior official.

When it rained during the search, people on the site raised worries about a fresh landslip. Toys, books, spectacles, children's clothes, utensils, medicines, framed marriage photos were found in damaged homes. Gas cylinders were seen under the rubble of some houses. "We expect bodies to be trapped under the debris, whether it is concrete or logs," says Sajeer Madassery, a volunteer.

Most bodies retrieved by the search teams were disfigured and mutilated. Identifying them remains a hard task at the Community Health Centre, Meppadi. Forensic surgeons have been brought in from different government medical colleges for postmortems. "We are making sure that postmortem procedures are done as fast as we can to help relatives identify and claim the bodies," says Dr. Reena K.J., Director of Health Services, Kerala.

The identification of mangled bodies is another traumatising experience for the survivors. "There is nothing more painful," says Basheer Saadi, Wayanad district president of the Santhwanam help group that is volunteering here.

Mass graves have been dug at the graveyards of Meppadi Juma masjid, Nellimunda Juma masjid, and St. Sebastian Church at Chooralmala. Mass pyres have been prepared at Meppadi public crematorium. Many funerals were over with none shedding tears, because traumatised survivors and their relatives have been numbed by the tragedy. "The trauma is so deep; it will take a long time for them to recover. We are prioritising counselling for them," says Dr. Reena.

The State and Central governments responded to the disaster by mobilising forces for rescue and search. The State has posted four ministers at Meppadi to supervise the rescue and rehabilitation. Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan says, "Counselling and privacy are very important for the survivors now." The Education Department will soon send teachers to the relief camps to teach the children lodged there.

Forest and Wildlife Minister A.K. Saseendran says the government will work on rehabilitation after completing the search operations. "It's going to be a top priority for us. We will use all our experience for it," he says.

## Times of trouble

While the Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced ₹2 lakh for the next of kin of the deceased and ₹50,000 for the injured, the tragedy opened up a debate between the Centre and the State. Union Home Minister Amit Shah said that the Centre had warned Kerala of heavy rains and landslides on July 23, 24, and 25.

Kerala Chief Minister, even when calling for joint measures to parry natural disasters caused by climate change and extreme weather conditions, refuted Shah's claims. He said that neither the India Meteorological Department (IMD), nor the Geological Survey of India (GSI), nor the Central Water Commission had issued a red alert for Wayanad ahead of the July 30 landslides. IMD issued a red alert for Kerala in the early morning of July 30, a few hours after the State witnessed its worst landslide.

The GSI had however, categorised the Vellarimala region of Wayanad as a highly vulnerable zone after the 2019 Puthumala landslide that took place just a few kilometres downhill from Mundakkai. In an atlas of landslide-prone areas made by ISRO, Wayanad is said to be the most vulnerable in Kerala and is in the 13th position among the country's 147 landslide-susceptible districts.

In 2011 the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel, headed by ecologist-author Madhav Gadgil, had categorised the area into three ecologically sensitive zones, with the now impacted Vythiri taluk being one of the most sensitive. In an interview with *The Hindu* after the disaster, he had said, "No development should have taken place in these highly sensitive areas." There are resorts, artificial lakes, and other commercial construction in the area.

Experts say the continuous rain the region witnessed over the last two weeks had softened the soil, triggering the landslides. But they differ on how it happened. According to former GSI deputy director general C. Muraleedharan, heavy rain caused the supersaturated soil to blast like a dam, leading to a debris flow.

According to C.P. Rajendran, professor at the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru, deforestation and unplanned buildings too were responsible. A study published in the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* in 2022 found that 85% of Wayanad was under forest cover until the 1950s and 62% disappeared between 1950 and 2018, whereas area under plantations went up by 1800.75%. However, Kerala Forest Statistsics 2020 records show that forest cover in Wayanad stands at 74.18%, and is the highest in the State.

"The frequency of landslides has gone up in Wayanad," says Rajendran, suggesting long-term strategies. Imaginative and humane initiatives are the need of the hour for Kerala, which has a high-density population, he says, adding that landslide risk mapping is a must, using all available resources, including satellite images.

Meanwhile, rainfall continues in Wayanad.

## From Page One

## Search continues amid fading hope in Wayanad

However, rescue workers continued their relentless search for survivors. They actively pursued signals picked up by ground-penetrating radars and points flagged by the Army and police dog squads. GPS-aided digital maps were used to pinpoint locations of houses in the disaster zone. The spots were excavated for possible survivors and bodies. Simultaneously, a large posse of police personnel, local divers, scouts, and guides combed the banks of the Chaliyar river in Malappuram for bodies of Wayanad landslide victims washed downstream by the swollen Iruvanjipuzha river, which abuts the disaster zone.

The government moved heavy machinery, including earthmovers, to the disaster-hit Mundakkai area, which remained cut off for more than two days after the catastrophe.

The massive earthfall had swept away the bridge across the Iruvanjipuzha, forcing rescue workers to take perilous detours and ropeways to reach Mundakkai. The impact had bifurcated the river into two fast-flowing streams.

The government has requisitioned several classrooms in a local school to set up a temporary morgue powered by diesel generators.

## SC asks govt. to overhaul NEET-UG on a deadline

The court pointed to how NTA initially gave 1,563 students grace marks after realising that they were allotted the wrong question paper, and then later decided to withdraw their scores and conduct a re-test. "A body such as NTA which is entrusted with immense responsibility in relation to highly important competitive exams cannot afford to misstep, take an incorrect decision, and amend it at a later stage. Flip-flops are an anathema to fairness," the court chastised.

The Chief Justice said the mishaps orchestrated by the NTA was a "luxury students cannot afford".

"The Centre has to restructure the whole process of the NEET through the high-powered committee. It has to ensure that we do not have further such examples in the future," Chief Justice Chandrachud said. In the judgment, the court pointed to varying versions given by the NTA about when and where the question papers were breached, including that it was taken away by people who had breached the "rear door" of an exam centre. The judgment then referred to the NTA's decision to grant marks for two options to a physics question in the NEET paper, reasoning that both answers were right.

## Privilege motion moved over Amit Shah's speech

He said privilege proceedings should be initiated against the Home Minister.

Answering a calling attention motion, Mr. Shah had said that the first advance warning was sent to the State on July 23 and subsequent warnings were issued on July 24, 25 and 26.

Nine NDRF teams were sent on July 23 to prepare for the impending tragedy, he had said. But *The Hindu* report, published on August 2, pointed out that the weather warnings issued by the India Meteorological Department (IMD) carried an orange alert for Kerala for July 25 and a yellow "watch" alert for July 23, 24, 26 and 27.

## 72% of assessees opted for new tax regime

### Record returns

The number of income tax returns (ITRs) as on July 31 touched 7.28 crore for 2023-24, 7.5% more than in the previous fiscal

| F.Y. | Due date | No. of ITRs filed |
|---|---|---|
| 2019-20 | Jan. 10, 2021 | 5,78,45,678 |
| 2020-21 | Dec. 31, 2021 | 5,77,39,682 |
| 2021-22 | July 31, 2022 | 5,82,88,692 |
| 2022-23 | July 31, 2023 | 6,77,42,303 |
| 2023-24 | July 31, 2024 | 7,28,80,318 |

Last year's Budget had also granted a hike in the tax rebate limit from ₹5 lakh to ₹7 lakh a year under the new tax regime, compared with ₹5 lakh a year applicable for the old tax regime. With Budget 2024-25 raising the standard deduction to ₹75,000 from ₹50,000 and rejigging the tax slabs under the new regime again, there could be a greater impetus for taxpayers to opt out of the old regime. Nearly 58.6 lakh I-T returns were filed by first-time filers, a fair indication of widening of tax base, the Department said. A little over 6.77 crore returns had been filed by the July 31 deadline last year, while total ITR filings were 8.61 crore. Taking the first-time filers into account, back-of-the-envelope calculations show that about 7.19 lakh taxpayers have not met the deadline this year.

Responding to tax practitioners' concerns about slow processing and down times on the I-T e-filing portal ahead of the deadline, CBDT Chairperson Ravi Agarwal had told *The Hindu* that those issues had been resolved by ramping up the portal's handling capacity.

# Centre reissues draft notification on ecosensitive areas in Western Ghats

**Despite its six iterations, the draft notification is yet to become law as Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, and T.N. have objected to specific places being classified as ecologically sensitive areas; panel formed to study the concerns of States**

**Jacob Koshy**
NEW DELHI

In the aftermath of the devastating landslide in Wayanad in Kerala, the Union government has reissued – for the sixth time in a decade – a draft notification classifying parts of the Western Ghats in six States as ecologically sensitive areas (ESAs).

This will impose restrictions on economic activities such as quarrying, mining, and large infrastructure development in these areas. A senior official told *The Hindu* that the timing of the sixth draft was "coincidental", and not related to the Wayanad disaster.

The last time the draft was issued was in July 2022. Among other areas, it had proposed to declare 13 villages in Wayanad, spanning the three taluks of Mananthavady, Sulthan Bathery, and Vythiri, as part of an ESA. Despite its six iterations, the draft notification is yet to become law as all six affected States – Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu – have objected to specific places

The fifth version of the draft notification was issued in July 2022 and its validity ended on July 31, said an official. FILE PHOTO

that have been included in the ESA regions. The dominant sentiment in Kerala was that this notification will subsume agricultural plantations, curtail the State's hydroelectricity plans, and would lead to a migration crisis given the State's high population density.

The current draft, issued on July 31 and made public on Friday, is "open to comments" from the public for 60 days. While such notifications typically become law after that period, the Union government has historically refrained from doing so with regard to this particular notification given the severe public backlash that it has invited.

A senior official said the latest notification was not connected to the Wayanad disaster. "The fifth version of the draft was issued in July 2022. While open for comments for 60 days, a draft is valid for 725 days and this ended on the 31st (July 2024). So we had to reissue it. There is no change in the content. The tragedy in Wayanad is just coincidental," he said. "It is difficult to get the States to arrive at a consensus and the committee is looking into it," he added. The first version of the draft had been issued in March 2014.

**No consensus**

A committee steered by ecologist Madhav Gadgil and mandated to examine the degree of protection needed in the Western Ghats recommended in 2011 that the entire region – spanning 1,29,000 square km – be declared as ecologically sensitive. Following consultations with residents, industrialists, and government officials, the Gadgil panel recommended the creation of three broad zones – ESA 1, ESA 2 and ESA 3 – with the first two inviting the strictest restrictions on economic activity. With the States unwilling to accept the recommendations, a second committee, led by former ISRO Chairman K. Kasturirangan, reconvened the exercise and halved the area of protected regions.

The committee also invited the States to draw up their own ESAs. Kerala was the first to do so. While there have been several meetings involving the Centre and the States that have spanned both the UPA and the NDA governments, it has been a challenge to arrive at a consensus ESA zone within the Western Ghats.

**New panel**

A separate committee has been formed to examine the concerns of the States and it was expected that a final notification would follow upon the recommendation of this committee. "The said Committee is addressing the issues raised by the States in the Western Ghats region on discrepancies or information gaps in the draft notification... July, 2022, on the correct names and area of villages to be included in the Ecologically Sensitive Area. The Committee is also examining the suggestions received from the States," the latest draft says.

This committee, constituted in 2022, is mandated to balance "conservation aspects of the disaster-prone pristine ecosystem, and the rights, privileges, needs and developmental aspirations of the region", but is yet to submit its report.

## Indian nationals in Israel told to 'stay vigilant'

**Suhasini Haidar**
NEW DELHI

India on Friday issued an updated advisory for Indians living in Israel, asking them to avoid "unnecessary travel" and to stay vigilant in light of the "prevailing security situation".

The advisory follows the killing of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran on Wednesday. Iran has blamed Israel and the U.S. for the killing of a "guest" and threatened to exact "revenge" for the violation of its sovereignty.

"In view of the prevailing situation in the region, all Indian nationals in Israel are advised to adhere to the safety protocols as advised by the local authorities," the Indian Embassy said in its notice, without mentioning any specific references to the killing.

"Please exercise caution, avoid unnecessary travel within the country and stay close to safety shelters," it said, adding that the embassy was "closely monitoring" the situation.

There are about 18,000 Indians living in Israel as students, professionals, construction workers, and caregivers.

# India-U.S. ties testimony to changing world: Jaishankar

**Dinakar Peri**
NEW DELHI

The India-U.S. relationship has been one policy that has "not been inconsistent or partisan" whatever the public debate on it is and the two countries are consistently beating market expectations for the past 25 years, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said on Friday, while acknowledging that there have been bumps and divergences. The comments came against the backdrop of recent friction in the relationship, the latest being Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Russia last month.

"To me, the U.S. relationship, more than any other relationship, is testimony of the changing world. I feel that often the pessimistic scenarios happen because they are behind the curve. They're not actually understanding today where the relationship is. We have bumps. I'm not saying we don't. We have issues, we have divergences. But we are consistently beating market expectations because the market is consistently behind us where this relationship is concerned, not

S. Jaishankar

now, for the last 25 years," Mr. Jaishankar said speaking at the Jasjit Singh Memorial Lecture organised by the Centre For Air Power Studies.

Days after Mr. Modi's visit to Russia in July, U.S. Ambassador Eric Garcetti cautioned that the relationship with the U.S. should "not be taken for granted" and that "in times of conflict there's no such thing as strategic autonomy".

**Narasimha Rao's role**

Tracing the trajectory of the India-U.S. relationship, Mr. Jaishankar said there were opportunities in the early 1940s to 1950s and then after the 1962 war with China. "Then I have a bit of a question mark about it you can say in the [PM] Rajiv Gandhi era," he remarked, but "I think structurally we were too close to the Soviets for that really to work. In fact, I would give more credit to [former PM] Narasimha Rao as a person who in a way, you know, freed up our system there."

"But and I think subsequently, every government has built up on it. At least that's one policy which has not been inconsistent or partisan, actually, at least where the actual policy is concerned, whatever the public debate on it is," Mr. Jaishankar noted.

Pointing out that the world has changed, American interests have changed, and so has global competition, the Union Minister said: "Our value in the world is different for the world, but for the U.S. as well. America's utility for us is also very different. That also is not a point to be forgotten."

"So a large part of, when you say grand strategy, is actually to continuously in today's parlance is to keep pressing the refresh button. Because the moment we are three years, five years out of date, we are actually not on the right track. That we are pursuing something which is outdated, which is probably not going to happen because of that."

# *Quid pro quo* via poll bonds are assumptions for now: SC

**Krishnadas Rajagopal**
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday refused to set up a Special Investigation Team (SIT) headed by a former top court judge to probe the allegations of "*quid pro quo*" among political parties, public servants, companies and even officers of law enforcement agencies revealed through data made public on poll bonds.

A three-judge Bench of Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud termed these allegations sheer "assumptions" at this stage and refused to embark on what it called a "roving and general inquiry".

The Bench summarised that the petitions, including one by NGOs Common Cause and Centre for Public Interest Litigation, were based on primarily two assumptions.

One, that there was *prima facie quid pro quo* whenever the date of purchase of electoral bonds and donation to a ruling political party was proximate to change in policy or award of contracts.

Secondly, the involvement of officers of investigative agencies in the corruption and *quid pro quo*

did not guarantee a fair probe.

The petitioners had argued that officers of the CBI, Enforcement Directorate and the Income Tax Department "appear to have become accessories to corruption". They said data showed the purchase of bonds by accused persons had coincided with the sudden fading away of hotly pursued criminal prosecutions.

"But these are only assumptions at the present stage," the Chief Justice Chandrachud said.

Besides, the court pointed out that the electoral bonds scheme was embodied within several enactments or amendments made by Parliament until it was found unconstitutional by a Constitution Bench in March.

"Donations were made to political parties through electoral bonds on the basis of laws enacted by Parliament," the Chief Justice Chandrachud reasoned.

**'Normal remedies'**

The court said if the petitioners suspected an "element of criminality" in any individual instance of proximity between the purchase of bonds and government largesse, they should first invoke the normal remedies available under the law of criminal procedure.

The petitioners could file writ petitions with the State High Court concerned under Article 226 if agencies refused to investigate or file a seemingly unfounded closure report.

The Bench said any writ petition filed under Article 32 in the Supreme Court must be preceded by the invocation of normal remedies. The court found it both "premature" and "inappropriate" to constitute an SIT. It would be premature as there were other remedies available in law. The petitioners had to test them first, and approach the apex court only when they had failed.

Again, it would be inappropriate to order an apex court-monitored probe by an SIT now as this would postulate that the normal criminal remedies were not efficacious.

# BSF chief, Special Director-General sent back to parent cadres as tenures curtailed

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) approved the proposal of the Union Home Ministry to repatriate Nitin Agarwal, Director-General (D-G) of the Border Security Force (BSF), and Y.B Khurania, Special D-G of the BSF, to their parent cadres of Kerala and Odisha, respectively.

The Ministry sent a proposal to the ACC to prematurely repatriate Mr. Agarwal, a 1989-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer on July 30, while the proposal to send back Mr. Khurania, a 1990-batch IPS officer, was sent on July 26.

"The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the proposal of the Ministry of Home Affairs for premature repatriation of Nitin Agarwal, IPS , D-G, BSF to his parent cadre with immediate effect," the government order said. Mr. Agarwal was appointed the D-G on June 12, 2023, and he had a tenure till July 30, 2026.

As Special D-G (West), Mr. Khurania was in charge of the security along the Pakistan border. On Friday, Mr. Khurania arrived in Jammu on a two-day visit.

"He was briefed on operational aspects and prevailing security situation in J&K. The SDG appreciated troops dedication and professionalism in performance of duties," the BSF Jammu Frontier posted on X. A day ago, the BSF shot dead an "intruder" in the Samba border area of Jammu.

The repatriation comes amid reports of infiltration from the Jammu border, which is under the operational control of the BSF. Since 2021, there has been a spate of terror attacks in the Jammu region.

Around a dozen security personnel have been killed in targeted attacks by armed militants who are said to have freshly infiltrated from the Jammu border in the past few months.

The attacks suggest concerted attempts to revive militancy in the Jammu region – in the Chenab Valley comprising Doda, Kishtwar, Ramban, Kathua, Udhampur and Reasi districts and south of the Pir Panjal after almost two decades.

# House torched in Manipur's Jiribam

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

A day after the Meitei and Hmar communities in Manipur's Jiribam agreed at a peace meeting to try and prevent arson and exchanges of gunfire in the district, a house in the Lalpani area was torched on Friday evening by miscreants, the police said.

They said the Meitei family occupying the house had managed to flee to safety and that no injuries or casualties were reported. The Lalpani area is dominated by the Bengali community with a few Meitei households.

Jiribam's Superintendent of Police M. Pradip Singh told *The Hindu*, "A case will be registered for arson in the matter. It appears to be an attempt to derail peace processes being attempted in Jiribam."

"Given the location, it is very unlikely that any of the parties that signed the peace pact were involved," a source said.

The peace meeting, brokered by district and security officials, was held in Assam's Cachar district on Thursday.

# Citizenship process under CAA Rules degrading, says MP

**Sobhana K. Nair**
NEW DELHI

**She says making people renounce citizenship to apply for it all over again is dehumanising**

Trinamool Congress MP Mamata Thakur, the party's Matua face, denounced the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) during the Zero Hour in the Rajya Sabha on Friday, calling the process of seeking citizenship under the law "degrading" and "dehumanising". Evoking the national unity seen at the ongoing Olympics, she denounced attempts to divide citizens or impose conditions on their citizenship.

The Matua sect was founded in what is now Bangladesh and lakhs of its members have migrated to India for decades. Many of their descendants are now being pushed to apply for formal citizenship under the CAA.

The Trinamool has been rallying against the CAA, saying its Rules require people who have been living in India for decades to renounce their Indian citizenship to apply afresh. The BJP, however, has been campaigning that the law allows groups such as Matuas to formalise their citizenship.

There has been a tepid response to its campaign, with very few applicants so far seeking Indian citizenship under the law in West Bengal.

"Attempting to divide our citizens on grounds of religion, language, sub-national identity, caste is never right. No citizen should be served with conditions in order to pursue a life of peace in this country. We stand for natural, unconditional citizenship. We are against making citizens show any unnatural paper for that," Ms. Thakur said.

A person who has valid identification to cast their vote should not be forced to furnish documents over and over again, she argued. "Making them renounce citizenship in order to apply for citizenship all over again is degrading. Adding conditions in the name of giving citizenship, forcing them to submit ancestral documents, and refusing citizenship if they fail to do so, and sending them to detention camps is immensely dehumanising," she said.

# Governor should be a bridge between Centre and State: PM

President urges Governors to contribute to the reform process as Chancellors of universities; Modi says they can play a crucial role in the welfare of the people, particularly in tribal areas

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday urged the Governors to be an effective bridge between the Centre and the State governments.

Addressing a two-day Conference of Governors, which was inaugurated by President Droupadi Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, the Prime Minister said that the post of Governor was an important institution that could play a crucial role in the welfare of the people within the framework of the Constitution, particularly with reference to tribal areas.

"In his address, the Prime Minister urged the Governors to play the role of an effective bridge between the Centre and the State and interact with people and social organisations in a manner to co-opt those who are underprivileged," a release from the Rashtrapati Bhavan said.

President Murmu, Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar and Union Home Minister Amit Shah also addressed the inaugural session.

Droupadi Murmu, Jagdeep Dhankhar, Narendra Modi, and Amit Shah at the Governors' conference, in New Delhi, on Friday. ANI

In her opening remarks, Ms. Murmu said it was crucial for the smooth functioning of democracy that various Central agencies work with better coordination across all the States.

As constitutional heads of their respective States, Governors should think how they can promote this coordination, she said.

Ms. Murmu said the agenda for the conference included carefully chosen issues that were crucial in achieving national goals. The two-day conference will cover a wide range of issues that play a critical role in not only shaping the Centre-State relations but also promoting welfare schemes for common people, the release from the Rashtrapati Bhavan said.

The President said that deliberations of the conference would be an enriching experience for all participants and help them in their functioning.

She expressed confidence that all Governors would continue to contribute to the service and welfare of the people, doing justice to the oath taken by them.

**'New era'**

Commenting on the implementation of three new laws related to criminal justice, Ms. Murmu said a new era of the justice system had begun in the country.

Noting that quality higher education was an intangible asset for individual development and social change as well as innovation and economic progress, Ms. Murmu said the National Education Policy has placed emphasis on improving the accreditation and assessment system of educational institutions.

"The President also urged Governors to contribute to this reform process in their capacity as the Chancellors of State universities," the Rashtrapati Bhavan statement said.

In his address, Mr. Dhankhar urged Governors to discharge their constitutional responsibility of making people aware of social welfare schemes and the "incredible developments" that have taken place during the past decade.

"The Modi government is working towards making the coordination between the States and the Centre even more seamless to reach out to more people with services and solutions," Mr. Shah said in a post on X, adding that the Conference of Governors served as a meeting point of not only the Constitutional heads of the States but also of ideas.

## INBRIEF

### Centre is suppressing truth on Broadcast Bill: Trinamool MP

Jawhar Sircar, Rajya Sabha member, on Friday accused the Centre of concealing information on the draft Broadcasting Services (Regulation) Bill after the Information and Broadcasting Ministry largely sidestepped a written query by him on the contentious law. The Bill, whose original draft was put out for public consultation last year, has had a subsequent version provided confidentially to select stakeholders. Mr. Sircar asked the government to name any "other democratic country" that subjects online content to this requirement. Minister L. Murugan did not address that query.

### Only govt. can fact-check news on Ministries: Minister

The Minister of Electronics and Information Technology, Railways, and Information & Broadcasting Ashwini Vaishnaw on Friday acknowledged the Supreme Court's stay on the notification of the Press Information Bureau's fact check unit, set up to report alleged misinformation and fake news about the Union government. The notification "has been stayed by the honorable Supreme Court... but our point is, [for] anything related to the Government of India, only the Government of India can say whether it is a correct fact or a wrong fact," Mr. Vaishnaw said in response to a supplementary question. "That is still under contest."

# MPs demand more funds, manpower for health sector

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

Lack of Central grants for the healthcare sector, NEET question paper leak, rising number of deaths among the youth from heart attack, lack of manpower, and appeal for more AIIMS-like institutions dominated Friday's discussion in the Lok Sabha on the demands for grants of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for 2024-25. Health and Family Welfare Minister J.P. Nadda is expected to present his response on August 5.

Raising concerns about young and middle-aged Indians becoming prone to various non-communicable diseases, Bangalore Rural MP C.N. Manjunath said 60% of the deaths today were caused by non-communicable diseases – the number one killer being heart attack. Those in the age group of 25-45 were becoming prone to it, Dr. Manjunath said.

**'Lack of doctors'**

Shiromani Akali Dal MP from Punjab Harsimart Kaur Badal noted that the existing AIIMS in her State did not have enough manpower or infrastructure.

Demanding that the Union government bring in measures to reduce the rising out-of-pocket health expenditure, Congress MP Shivaji Bandappa Kalge said the tax on medical equipment should be brought down, besides allocating more funds for the healthcare sector. "We are dealing with a situation where there is a lack of doctors in the rural sector and this needs to be corrected," he added.

Independent MP Rajesh Ranjan stressed the need for standardisation of charges for various medical investigations. All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen MP Asaduddin Owaisi said most primary healthcare centres lacked basic infrastructure.

# Minister blames Congress regime for problems in agriculture sector

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said on Friday that the "anti-farmer mentality" of the past Congress governments was the reason for the problems plaguing the agriculture sector at present.

Speaking in the Rajya Sabha during a debate on the functioning of his Ministry, he alleged that the priorities of the previous Congress governments for the sector were wrong.

"Anti-farmer mentality is in the DNA of the Congress," he said and alleged that former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru wanted to implement the "Russian model" of agriculture in India, which was opposed by farmers' leader Charan Singh, who later became the Prime Minister. He said the policies of the Congress government led to the import of wheat from the U.S. and the lack of remunerative prices for agriculture produce. "Things have changed after Narendra Modi took over as the Prime Minister," he said.

Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan speaks in the Rajya Sabha in New Delhi, on Friday. PTI

Mr. Chouhan said the Centre had set six priorities for the growth of the agriculture sector – increasing production, reducing input cost, providing remunerative prices, granting proper compensation in case of natural calamities, diversification and value addition in agriculture and promotion of natural farming. His reply will continue on Monday.

On questions about a statutory guarantee for minimum support price for farmers, he said farmers sold at the MSP only when the market price of the crop was lower than the MSP. "If farmers are getting the right price, they will not sell at MSP. The market price of many crops is much higher than the MSP," he said.

At this point, Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar said the problems of farmers must be understood from the right perspective, and asked the Centre to regularly raise the MSP. Mr. Chouhan replied that the Modi government was committed to providing remunerative prices to farmers by purchasing their produce at the MSP.

# Rahul says ED set to raid him; BJP says Congress creating a new narrative

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

With Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi saying the the Enforcement Directorate (ED) is planning a raid against him, senior BJP leader Rajeev Chandrasekhar on Friday accused the Congress leader of trying to evade accountability for the loss of over 300 lives in the Wayanad landslides.

The war of words was started by a post by Mr. Gandhi on X, in which he said the government did not like his speech during the Budget discussion in which he had accused it of pushing the people into a "*chakravyuh* [a battle formation]". "Apparently, 2 in 1 didn't like my *Chakravyuh* speech. ED 'insiders' tell me a raid is being planned. Waiting with open arms @dir_ed.. Chai and biscuits on me," he said. The post came in the middle of his Wayanad visit.

Rahul Gandhi

Mr. Chandrasekhar told presspersons: "Rahul Gandhi and the Congress have perfected the strategy that whenever they are confronted with a tough set of questions or issues that they have no answers to, they try and wriggle out of it by creating a new narrative."

Stating that Mr. Gandhi as MP of the constituency was the "last" to reach Wayanad, Mr. Chandrasekhar said: "He [Rahul Gandhi] wants to be the centre of attention, he wants to be playing the victim card... you can do this once, you can fool people some time, [but] you cannot fool people all the time. This is nothing but a silly attempt by Rahul Gandhi to take the new story away from Wayanad and on to this make-believe imaginary attempt by the ED on him."

**KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice**

**Tender No :** e-tender SE/PHC/KKD/19/2024-25, e-tender SE/PHC/KKD/20/2024-25, JJM - Wayanad District - **1.** CWSS to AMBALAVAYAL, NENMENI, POOTHADY and PULPALLY pts and Augmentation of WSS to KANIYAMBETTA pt-Construction and commissioning of 25 MLD WTP and allied works **2.** CWSS to Moopainad, Meppadi and Vythiri Pts - Supply, Laying, of RWPM, Pumpset, Transformer & Design, Construction and Commissioning of 15 MLD WTP in Meppadi GP, **EMD :** Rs. 5,00,000/-, **Tender Fee :** Rs. 16,540/- + 18 % GST, **Last Date for Submitting Tender :** 16-08-2024, 04:00 pm. **Phone :** 0495-2371046. Website : **www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**
KWA-JB-GL-6-332-2024-25 Superintending Engineer, PH Circle, Kozhikode

**RAJASTHAN STATE HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY, JAIPUR**
**GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN**

No. F.7(19)/RSHA/WB/HAM-01/Toll/2023-24/D-769 Date:- 31/7/24

**NIT No.09/2024-25**

**INVITATION OF BIDS FOR TOLL COLLECTION**

Bids for Collection of user fee through fee collecting agency on the basis of open competitive bidding in the state of rajasthan at the toll plazas located at design **PADAMPUR-RAISINGH NAGAR, km 39.000 to 62.920 & SATTASAR-BIKANER, km 198.500 to 267.530** (Package: WB/RSHDP-II/Annuity-01/Toll) are invited from interested bidders **upto 11:00 AM on 14.08.2024**.
Other particulars of bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in) of the state. The estimated value of Annual Remittance is **Rs. 23.14 Cr.**

**UBN No. PWD2425SLOB03686**

Email: ho.rsha@rajasthan.gov.in Member (WC&O), RSHA, Jaipur
Tel: +91-141-2223547 **DIPR/C/6912/2024**

**कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, वृत्त दौसा**

क्रमांक–1567–87 दिनांक : 29.07.2024

**निविदा सूचना संख्या–02/2024–25**

राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से जिला दौसा में केन्द्रीय सड़क इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर निधि योजना के अन्तर्गत चौड़ाईकरण एवं सुदृढ़ीकरण सड़कों का निर्माण कार्य के निम्नलिखित कार्यों मय पांच साल की मरम्मत के लिए 1 कार्य उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/डाक एवम् दूर संचार विभाग/रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के ए, एए, श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई–प्रोक्यूरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया से ऑन लाईन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा से सम्बन्धित विवरण वेब साईट http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in व http://pwd.rajasthan.gov.in http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। पैकेजवाईज यू.बी.एन संख्या निम्नानुसार है।
NIB code **PWD2425A0951**

UBN.No. PWD2425WLOB03598

इच्छुक संवेदकों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेब साईट http: ://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर रजिस्टर्ड होना आवश्यक है।

DIPR/C/6845/2024 (एम.एल. मीना)
अधीक्षण अभियन्ता
सा.नि.वि. वृत दौसा

**कार्यालय अधिशाषी अभियन्ता सा.नि.वि. विद्युत खण्ड प्रथम, जोधपुर**

क्रमांक : अ.अ./वि.1/जो/निविदा/2024–25/949 दिनांक : 29.07.2024

**निविदा सूचना संख्या 10/2024–25**
**NIB Code : PWD2425A0952**

राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से विभिन्न विद्युतीकरण कार्यों हेतु सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में उपयुक्त श्रेणी में पंजीकृत संवेदकों द्वारा विद्युत कार्यों हेतु ई–टेण्डरिंग के माध्यम से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में प्राप्त की जावेंगी। निविदा से संबंधित विवरण वेबसाईट www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in व http://www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in/ व http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| निविदा की कुल लागत | | रु 168.78 लाख<br>अधिकतम एकल कार्य की राशि 117.54 लाख |
| कुल धरोहर राशि | | अनुमानित लागत की दो प्रतिशत अथवा नियमानुसार |
| निविदा आवेदन / डाउनलोड करने की तारीख व समय | | 29/07/2024 से 10/08/2024 तक सायं 06.00 बजे |
| ऑनलाईन निविदा जमा कराने की तारीख व समय | | 29/07/2024 से 10/08/2024 तक सायं 06.00 बजे |
| तकनीकी / वित्तीय बिड खोलने की तारीख व समय | | 12/08/2024 अपरान्ह 11.00 बजे से |
| प्री–बिड मीटिंग की तारीख व समय | | 07/08/2024 को दोपहर 1.00 बजे से अधिषाधी अभियंता सा.नि.वि. विद्युत खण्ड प्रथम जोधपुर कार्यालय में |
| | 1 | PWD2425WSOB03599 |
| | 2 | PWD2425WSOB03600 |
| | 3 | PWD2425WSOB03601 |
| | 4 | PWD2425WSOB03602 |

DIPR/C/6837/2024 अधिशाषी अभियंता
सा.नि.वि. विद्युत खण्ड प्रथम, जोधपुर

**सी.एस.आई.आर.–भारतीय रासायनिक जीवविज्ञान संस्थान**
**CSIR-INDIAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL BIOLOGY**
(COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC & INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH)
4, Raja S.C. Mullick Road, Jadavpur, Kolkata – 700032 (W.B.) India

**SHORT TENDER NOTICE**

CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, Kolkata intends to invite online tenders (e-Tenders) from eligible contractors / firms for the following works at CSIR-IICB, Campuses, Kolkata:-

| Name of Work | e-Tender No. | Estimated cost (₹) |
|---|---|---|
| Repair and Renovation of Different Rooms (2024-2025) Phase-1 at CSIR-IICB, Jadavpur campus, Kolkata - 700032 - (Civil and Electrical Work) and External and Internal common area painting of RL block at CSIR-IICB, Salt Lake campus, Kolkata - 700091. | 2024_CSIR_ 203009_1 | 75.12 lakhs |

**N.B.:** Publication in CPP, Date – **30th July, 2024** and Time – **4.00 P.M.** For further details about eligibility criteria and other information visit websites **https://www.iicb.res.in/tender.html/** and **https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app**

**Himachal Pradesh Road and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited**
**State Roads Project, Nirman Bhawan, Nigam Vihar Shimla-171002**
**Fax: 0177-2620663; Tel: 0177-2620663/2627602, E-mail: pdsrp-hp@nic.in**

**NOTICE INVITING BID**

The Director (Projects) HPRIDCL, Nirman Bhawan, Nigam Vihar, Shimla-171002, Himachal Pradesh, India invites the Request for Proposal (RFP) from Consultancy Services for Construction Supervision of Balance Cantilever Bridge at Garkhal in Himachal Pradesh.

| Name of Work | Total Duration of Project | Tender Fee (in Rs.) | Date of availability of bid document | Last date & Time for submission of Bids |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Consultancy Services for Construction Supervision of Balance Cantilever Bridge at Garkhal in Himachal Pradesh. | 24 Months | 5900/- (With 18% GST) | August 12 , 2024 | August 27, 2024 |

RFP will be available on the official web site of HPRIDCL under link https://himachalservices.nic.in/hpridc/HPSRTP.html

Any further addendum/Corrigendum to this Request for Proposal document shall be available to all interested firms on the same web link. Proposal must be delivered in written form to the address below (in person, or by post by August 27, 2024 at 15:00 hours (IST) positively.
**Note:**
1. Bid through any other mode shall not be entertained.
2. Please note that the Executing Agency reserves the right to accept or reject all or any of the Bids without assigning any reason whatsoever.

*HP / 0248/2024-2025*
**Director (Projects),**
**State Roads Project, HPRIDCL**
**Nirman Bhawan, Shimla-171002**

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA** email : serwsbd2003@yahoo.com
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER,**
**RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, SUNABEDA.**

No : 3119 / **1st CORRIGENDUM** Date: 01/08/2024

In continuation to this office Bid Identification No- CCERWCSBD Online-06/2024-25 invited vide this office Tender Call Notice No. 2857 Dtd. 12.07.2024 partial modification of TCN has been made as follows:-

| Sl No. | Item | Time Schedule as per original TCN | Time Schedule as per Corrigendum notice |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Availability of Tender online for bidding | 19.07.2024 at 11.00 AM to 02.08.2024 up to 5.00 Pm | Extended to 20.08.2024 up to 5.00 PM |
| 2 | Date and Time of seeking tender clarification if any | 01.08.2024 up to 2.00 PM | 17.08.2024 up to 2.00 PM |
| 3 | Date & Time of opening of tender (Technical Bid) | 03.08.2024 at 11.00 AM | 21.08.2024 at 11.00 AM |
| 4 | Date & Time of opening of tender (Price Bid) | Will be intimated later on to the successful bidders | Will be intimated later on to the successful bidders |

All other terms and conditions will remain unaltered.

O-161: **Chief Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sunabeda.**
OIPR-25182/11/0011/2425

## INBRIEF

### Hoarding collapses in Thane; 2 injured, 3 vehicles damaged

A hoarding collapsed on Friday morning at Kalyan in Maharashtra's Thane, injuring two persons and damaging three vehicles. Kalyan Tehsildar Sachin Shejal confirmed that heavy rain with gusty winds were the cause for the collapse that happened around 10.15 a.m. at Sahajanand Chowk. "We will initiate action against the erring contractor for failing to adhere to the guidelines laid out for billboards and hoardings," Kalyan-Dombivli Municipal Corporation Commissioner Indurani Jakhad said. This has happened in just a few months after the hoarding collapse in Ghatkopar on May 13, claiming 17 lives and injuring over 80 individuals.

### Plea in SC on blood donation by transgender persons

The Supreme Court on Friday issued a formal notice to the Union government in a petition challenging the exclusion of gay persons, transgender persons, and women sex workers from donating blood. A three-judge Bench also sought responses from the National AIDS Control Organisation and the National Blood Transfusion Council. The petition has questioned the validity of Clause 12 of the 'Guidelines for Blood Donor Selection & Blood Donor Referral, 2017' issued by the National Blood Transfusion Council and the National AIDS Control Organisation.

# India selects 2 crew members for Axiom-4 mission to ISS

**Shubhanshu Shukla and Prasanth Balakrishnan Nair, Group Captains in the IAF, will train in U.S.; experience gained during the mission will be beneficial for human space programme, says ISRO**

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Indian astronaut-designates Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla and Group Captain Prasanth Balakrishnan Nair have been shortlisted to go to the U.S. to train for the Axiom-4 mission to the International Space Station (ISS).

The National Mission Assignment Board has recommended them as prime and back-up mission pilots for the mission. Group Captain Shukla will be the prime mission pilot and Group Captain Nair will be the back-up.

The Axiom-4 mission is the fourth private astronaut mission to the International Space Station.

The India-U.S. joint statement during the state visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the U.S. in June 2023 envisioned a joint ISRO-NASA effort to the ISS.

Towards the goal of mounting a joint ISRO-NASA effort, the Human Space Flight Centre (HSFC) of the ISRO has entered into a Space Flight Agreement with the NASA-identified service provider Axiom Space Inc., U.S., for its upcoming Axiom-4 mission to the ISS, the ISRO said.

Group Captain Prasanth Balakrishnan Nair (left) and Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

**Scientific research**

The agency added that the assigned crew members will be finally approved to fly to the International Space Station by the Multilateral Crew Operations Panel. They will commence training for the mission from the first week of August, it said.

"During the mission, the Gaganyatri will undertake selected scientific research and technology demonstration experiments on board the ISS as well as engage in space outreach activities. The experiences gained during this mission will be beneficial for the Indian Human Space Program and it will also strengthen human space flight cooperation between ISRO and NASA," the ISRO said.

Group Captain Shukla and Group Captain Nair are among the four selected for India's Gaganyaan mission.

Group Captain Shukla is an alumnus of the National Defence Academy and was commissioned on June 17, 2006 in the fighter stream of the IAF. He is a fighter combat leader and a test pilot with approximately 2,000 hours of flying experience. He has flown a variety of aircraft, including Su-30 MKI, MiG-21, MiG-29, Jaguar, Hawk, Dornier, and An-32.

Group Captain Nair is an alumnus of the NDA and recipient of the Sword of Honour at the Air Force Academy.

He was commissioned on December 19, 1998 in the fighter stream of the IAF. He is a Cat A flying instructor and a test pilot with approximately 3,000 hours of flying experience.

He has flown a variety of aircraft, including Su-30 MKI, MiG-21, MiG-29, Hawk, Dornier, and An-32. He is also an alumnus of the United States Staff College and a DS at the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, and the Flying Instructors School, Tambaram. He has commanded a premier fighter Su-30 squadron.

# SC suggests forming 'neutral panel' for talks with farmers

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday advised statesmanship and empathy on the part of the government while reaching out to protesting farmers, who have blockaded the Shambhu boundary linking Punjab and Haryana. It also suggested the setting up of a "neutral panel" to negotiate with the farmers.

A Bench headed by Justice Surya Kant was considering the prospect of opening the boundary in a phased manner to allow free movement for commuters, especially ambulances and senior citizens travelling between the States.

Farmers have been protesting on the inter-State boundary since February for various issues, including a statutory guarantee for minimum support price for crops.

"Do not hurt their sentiments. Show statesmanship. Try to convince them that their tractors, JCBs and agricultural equipment ought to return to where they are required, in their farms and lands," Justice Kant addressed Haryana, Punjab, and the Centre.

The Bench suggested having a former top court judge with an agricultural background to be part of the "neutral panel" to negotiate with the farmers and the government.

It mooted inclusion of agricultural scientists, economists and professors from agricultural universities in Punjab and Haryana to be part of the committee.

Justice Kant said though there may be seasoned politicians who could be part of the panel, it did not want to raise any suspicion in the minds of the farmers that such people would take advantage of the protests to fulfil their political agendas.

"We want a smooth beginning to the dialogue process. Sometimes there is a mindblock when a politician comes into the picture. We suggest neutral persons," Justice Kant observed orally.

The court scheduled the next hearing for August 12.

In the previous hearing, the court had blamed a "trust deficit" between the agitating farmers and the government.

# Himachal flood toll mounts to six; 47 people still missing

**Task at hand:** A rescue operation under way at Rajvan village in Mandi district of Himachal Pradesh on Friday. PTI

**The Hindu Bureau**
CHANDIGARH

The death toll in separate incidents of cloudbursts and flash floods across Himachal Pradesh rose to six on Friday, even as rescue and search operations continued on a war footing.

As many as 47 people are still missing in Shimla, Mandi and Kullu districts, after heavy rain left rivers in spate. Fifty-five people have been evacuated so far, while 27 are stranded at different places.

Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, who visited Samej in Shimla district to review the ongoing relief and rehabilitation efforts, said, "Each affected family will receive ₹50,000 as immediate assistance and ₹5,000 per month, for three months, for hiring rented accommodation."

Mr. Sukhu said widespread damage was reported in Shimla, Mandi and Kullu districts on Wednesday.

# Mamata urges Nirmala to withdraw GST on insurance

**The Hindu Bureau**
KOLKATA

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Friday wrote to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and urged her to withdraw 18% GST on life insurance and health insurance premiums.

She said the imposition of the GST on premiums increases the financial burden on the common people. "With deep anguish, I am writing to you regarding the imposition of 18% GST on life insurance and health insurance policies/products and the withdrawal of deductions in the new tax regime under Sections 80C and 80D of the Income Tax Act, which, to me, are highly anti-people in nature," she said.

The letter came a day after Ms. Banerjee threatened protests if the Union government does not roll back the decision.

# Cabinet approves 8 high-speed road corridor projects

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

The Union Cabinet on Friday approved eight national high-speed road corridor projects totalling 936 km at a cost of ₹50,000 crore. They include a four-lane ring road for Ayodhya for pilgrims visiting the Ram Mandir and a bypass for Guwahati that will connect various cities in the north-eastern region.

The pilgrim town of Ayodhya will get a 68-km-long four-lane access-controlled ring road at a total capital cost of ₹3,935 crore enabling seamless connectivity to tourists arriving from airports in Lucknow and Ayodhya as well as major railway stations.

The Cabinet has also okayed a 214-km six-lane high-speed corridor between Tharad and Ahmedabad in Gujarat, which will provide connectivity between two key national corridors connecting Amritsar with Jamnagar and Delhi and Mumbai Expressway. This will provide seamless connectivity for freight vehicles originating from the industrial regions of Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan to the major ports in Maharashtra, the government said in a press release.

Guwahati will get a 121-km bypass to be developed at a total cost of ₹5,729 crore. A major bridge across the Brahmaputra will also be constructed as part of the project. The road will provide seamless connectivity to long-distance traffic plying on National Highway 27, which is the gateway to the northeast, the statement said.

Agra will get a national high-speed corridor which will connect it with Gwalior. It will be 88 km in length and will be developed at a cost of ₹4,613 crore.

# ICMR got ₹172 cr. from Bharat Biotech for Covaxin: Nadda

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has received ₹172 crore as royalty from Bharat Biotech International Ltd. for jointly developing Covaxin, an indigenously developed vaccine for COVID-19, Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda said during Question Hour in the Lok Sabha on Friday.

The Minister said that after the Union government objected to the failure to list ICMR as a co-owner and co-inventor during the filing of the patent for Covaxin, Bharat Biotech had accepted its mistake and rectified it. "Now ICMR, National Institute of Virology, along with three scientists are co-owners and co-inventors of Covaxin," Mr. Nadda said.

He informed the House that India had given Covaxin supplies to seven other countries under the Vaccine Maitri programme.

Covaxin was jointly developed by the ICMR, NIV, and Bharat Biotech.

Covaxin was jointly developed by the ICMR, National Institute of Virology (NIV) and Bharat Biotech in two phases. The first was to isolate the virus, and study the challenges and related issues, and these were done by the ICMR and the NIV.

Then, the development of the vaccine was done by Bharat Biotech, which spent around ₹60 crore to that end, the Minister said.

The ICMR spent around ₹35 crore on the development of Covaxin, including ₹20 crore towards the Phase 3 clinical trial which involved funding 25 sites for screening and recruiting 25,800 participants.

**Patent application**

Responding to Trinamool Congress member Sougata Roy, who had asked whether the government took any punitive action against Bharat Biotech for not mentioning the names of ICMR and NIV in the patent application, the Minister noted that there had been a joint memorandum of understanding between the ICMR, the NIV and Bharat Biotech for the vaccine's development.

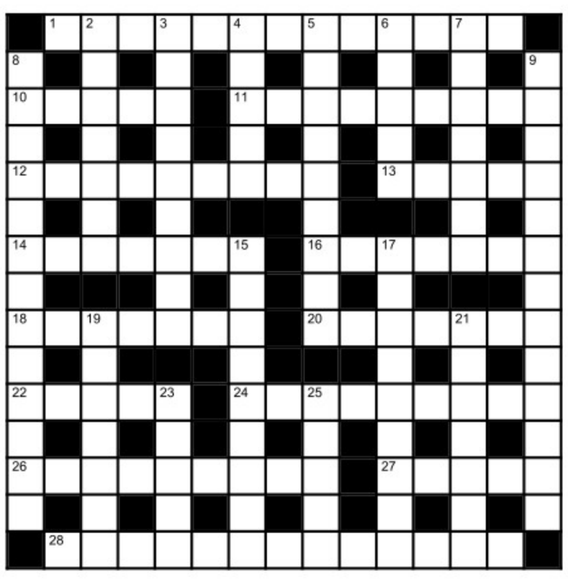
Initially, when Bharat Biotech filed the patent application, it only included its own name. As soon as the government and the ICMR came to know about it, "we questioned them", Mr. Nadda said and added that after the objection was raised, the application was corrected by Bharat Biotech.

## TH CROSSWORD + 14244

(set by Arden)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn

SCAN TO PLAY



**Across**

**1** Service backed by unions - there are too many hitches, perhaps (4,9)
**10** Say it's absolute (5)
**11** Dispatched a pack inside for a religious ceremony (9)
**12** A newsroom broadcast "Ladies in a row" (9)
**13** Hard soil, not right, land not cultivated (5)
**14** A way to fall in line is more palatable (7)
**16** Paints the school colours, all of them in the end accept title (7)
**18** Four emptied, double that consignment (7)
**20** Clear order, one million to recover (7)
**22** Work and exercise initially did put one to sleep (5)
**24** Ten photos developed then and there (2-3-4)
**26** Loyal caller exposed the big man (9)
**27** Speech - PM gets India backing (5)
**28** Follow what the photographer wants to do (3,3,7)

**Down**

**2** Star workers can cover 100 square metres (7)
**3** Jump over, breaking law - that's huge (9)
**4** Tea - collect from bottom to top (5)
**5** "No vehicle came up"- true version of his story (9)
**6** Change of heart - a desire to be under water (5)
**7** Upgrade? Leave out the banks (7)
**8** Auto foundries struggling, clueless (3,3,2,5)
**9** Simultaneously after a damage, estimate them (2,3,4,4)
**15** Reason to limit booze (9)
**17** St. Michael blessed old man of science (9)
**19** Get rid of old dal in Indian kitchen (7)
**21** "He wants a job as a salesman", they say... (7)
**23** ...till it follows one, for example (5)
**25** Foreign tourist or missing tribesman? (5)

## SUDOKU

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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| | | 6 | | | 9 | | 2 | |

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

**Solution to previous puzzle**

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| R | ■ | I | ■ | U | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| E | G | I | M | E | N | ■ | ■ | ■ |
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**Solution to yesterday's Sudoku**

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| 1 | 4 | 9 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 6 |
| 5 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 9 |
| 9 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 2 |
| 4 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 3 |
| 3 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 4 |
| 7 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 5 |
| 6 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 8 |
| 8 | 9 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 1 |

## FAITH

### *Aadi* 18: flood of devotion

Faith in the higher being and social consciousness have always been the hallmark of south Indians from time immemorial. Natural resources, especially rivers, are revered and treated as divinity itself. Tiruvalluvar's Kural sums it up. The poet says, "If the rains were to fail there would be no more offerings and festivals to the Gods." River Cauvery is deified and treated as a goddess and worshipped, especially on the 18th day of the Tamil month of *Aadi*, said Dr. Sudha Seshayyan in a discourse. On this day, the river swells and flows gracefully through the delta and the feeling of piety and the happy emotions it generates in the residents of this area is unquantifiable.

The south-west monsoon, originating in the Western Ghats, fills up water bodies and flows southwards. For eons, dwellers near the rivers Cauvery, Palar, Vaigai and Tamirabharani have prayed primarily for rains, for without rainfall, there can be no sustenance of life on earth. The upswing of devotional ferrous is triggered on Aadi 18 since the river is viewed as no less than a mother who nourishes her offspring. The swollen river is a sign that the future is secure. Such is the personalised characteristic of this day that men and women hold the river to be 'pregnant' and offer bangles, auspicious turmeric and hold a ritual one normally associates with pregnant women.

## INBRIEF

### Toyota reopens bookings for Innova Hycross models

Toyota Kirloskar Motor has reopened bookings for the Innova Hycross ZX & ZX (O) models. Owing to high-demand, the bookings for these top-end grades were put on hold temporarily. "During this period, bookings for other grades of the Innova Hycross, both hybrid and gasoline, continued unabated. With streamlining and enhanced supply, the waiting period has been reduced and the bookings for Innova Hycross top-end grades commenced," the company said.

### Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Q1 net rises 10% on asset quality

Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Ltd., (TMB) reported standalone net profit for the June quarter rose 10% to ₹287 crore on improvement in asset quality and interest income. Interest income rose to ₹1,281 crore from ₹1,156 crore and non-interest income by ₹67 crore to ₹234 crore, the private sector lender said. Net interest income grew by 10% to ₹567 crore. Net interest margin increased to 4.12% from 4%. Gross NPAs slid 12 bps to 1.44% while net NPAs contracted by 1 bps to 0.65%.

### U.S. FDA issues 3 observations to Gland Pharma's facility

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (U.S. FDA) issued a Form 483 with three observations to Gland Pharma post inspection of the generic injectable-focused company's Pashamylaram facility in Hyderabad. The observations are neither repeat observations nor related to data integrity. The corrective and preventive actions for the observations will be submitted to the U.S. FDA within the stipulated period, Gland Pharma said in a filing on Friday.

# Sensex, Nifty slip over 1% led by sell-off in auto, steel stocks

Weaker-than-expected U.S. data, with unemployment rate rising to 4.3% in July amid a significant slowdown in hiring, triggered a global slump with the contagion effect not sparing Indian bourses

**The Hindu Bureau**
MUMBAI

Reversing the bullish trend, benchmark stock indices slipped by more than 1% on Friday led by a sell-off in auto and steel stocks, after weaker-than-expected U.S. jobs data triggered a global equities slump.

The S&P BSE Sensex witnessed a decline of 885.60 points, or 1.08%, to 80,981.95. Sensex stocks that lost the most included Maruti down 4.63%, Tata Motors (4.17%), JSW Steel (3.66%), Tata Steel (2.97%), L&T (2.91%) and M&M (2.84%). The NSE Nifty-50 index slid 293.20 points, or 1.17%, to 24.717.70, a day after it had crossed the 25,000-point mark.

**Global wobble:** Equity investors become poorer by ₹4.4 lakh crore as markets crashed. REUTERS

Most sectors mirrored the benchmark's decline and the broader indices also fell each losing half-a-percent, an analyst said.

"Today, our markets followed the trend of world equity markets, which closed with a massive drop in the last few days," Amol Athawale, VP-Technical Research, Kotak Securities said commenting on the slide in stock indices.

"They were down due to weak economy-related data as well as disappointing quarterly numbers. However, our markets held up relatively better than world markets, which fell by over 1.50%."

# 'Elevated, broad-based food inflation to force RBI to hold'

**The Hindu Bureau**
MUMBAI

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), which will be meeting from August 6-8, would likely keep policy rates unchanged on account of elevated food inflation, economists at Barclays India & Goldman Sachs Economics Research said in separate notes.

"Enduring upward food price pressure on headline inflation would likely keep the MPC cautious," Shreya Sodhani and Amruta Ghare of Barclays wrote. "We expect the MPC to keep policy settings unchanged in a 4-2 vote. With no urgency to cut rates given steady growth, we see a risk of rate cuts being delayed beyond December," they added.

"The MPC has lots to digest since the last meeting in June: food price pressures halted the disinflationary trend in the headline rate in June, the Union Budget maintained its commitment to fiscal consolidation, and the U.S. Fed is now hinting at a September cut. Domestic growth indicators remain broadly steady, which should be taken as a source of comfort by the MPC," the Barclays economists wrote.

Goldman Sachs economists stated that elevated and broad-based food inflation had kept H1 calendar year 2024 headline inflation near 5%.

"Going forward, even though a high base... is going to pull headline inflation down towards 4% in Q3, there are upside risks to food inflation due to an uneven monsoon," the economists added.

# 'SEBI targets reduction in time taken to fundraise'

**Reuters**
MUMBAI

The Securities and Exchange Board of India is working to streamline the fundraising process for firms and simplifying IPO documents for investors, Chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch said on Friday.

SEBI is working to merge rights issues and preferential allotments to expedite fundraising, Ms. Buch said, adding it would cut the time companies need to raise funds by half.

# Unemployment rate hits 4.3% in U.S. as job growth slows

**Reuters**
WASHINGTON

The U.S. unemployment rate jumped to near a three-year high of 4.3% in July amid a significant slowdown in hiring, heightening fears the labour market was deteriorating and potentially making the economy vulnerable to a recession.

The increase in the unemployment rate from 4.1% in June marked the fourth straight monthly increase, the U.S. Labor Department reported on Friday. It has risen from a five-decade low of 3.4% in April 2023. The labour market is slowing, driven by weak hiring, rather than layoffs, as the Federal Reserve's interest rate increases in 2022 and 2023 weigh on demand.

The employment report also showed the increase in annual wages last month was the smallest in more than three years, effectively sealing the case for the U.S. central bank to cut interest rates in September.

"The latest snapshot of the labour market is consistent with a slowdown, not necessarily a recession," said Jeffrey Roach, chief economist at LPL Financial. "However, early warning signs suggest further weakness. If [it]... weakens further, markets will likely price in three cuts this year."

Nonfarm payrolls rose by 1,14,000 jobs after rising by a downwardly revised 1,79,000 in June, the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics said.

## MARKETS

### MARKET WATCH

| | FRIDAY | % CHANGE |
|---|---|---|
| Sensex | 80,982 | -1.08 |
| US Dollar | 83.72 | 0.01 |
| Gold | 72,850 | 0.48 |
| Brent oil | 77.24 | -3.67 |

### NIFTY 50

| | PRICE | CHANGE |
|---|---|---|
| Adani Enter | 3160.90 | -56.35 |
| Adani Ports | 1588.00 | -2.15 |
| Apollo Hosp | 6710.15 | 3.75 |
| Asian Paints | 3106.70 | 7.35 |
| Axis Bank | 1160.85 | -11.45 |
| Bajaj Auto | 9616.20 | -114.30 |
| Bajaj Finserv | 1623.45 | -11.35 |
| Bajaj Finance | 6725.00 | -46.65 |
| Bharti Airtel | 1493.80 | -11.70 |
| BPCL | 347.10 | -2.00 |
| Britannia Ind | 5720.35 | -9.80 |
| Cipla | 1528.80 | -17.40 |
| Coal India | 524.50 | -15.90 |
| Divis Lab | 4991.25 | 73.35 |
| Dr Reddys Lab | 6964.15 | 76.20 |
| Eicher Motors | 4726.70 | -242.10 |
| Grasim Ind | 2706.80 | -60.20 |
| HCL Tech | 1609.30 | -31.25 |
| HDFC Bank | 1659.15 | 20.35 |
| HDFC Life | 707.40 | -6.20 |
| Hero MotoCorp | 5274.20 | -97.65 |
| Hindalco | 648.05 | -25.45 |
| Hind Unilever | 2692.55 | -23.00 |
| ICICI Bank | 1196.55 | -13.55 |
| IndusInd Bank | 1404.30 | -15.55 |
| Infosys | 1821.20 | -31.40 |
| ITC | 489.10 | -4.60 |
| JSW Steel | 899.55 | -35.00 |
| Kotak Bank | 1803.45 | 10.80 |
| L&T | 3665.70 | -113.60 |
| LTIMindtree Ltd. | 5509.90 | -169.00 |
| M&M | 2749.65 | -78.75 |
| Maruti Suzuki | 12726.40 | -632.65 |
| NestleIndia | 2495.10 | 11.10 |
| NTPC | 419.70 | -3.75 |
| ONGC | 330.10 | -11.65 |
| PowerGrid Corp | 358.25 | -2.85 |
| Reliance Ind | 2998.65 | -31.95 |
| SBI Life | 1744.90 | -22.35 |
| State Bank | 847.85 | -14.80 |
| Shriram Finance Ltd. | 2992.10 | 2.85 |
| Sun Pharma | 1731.65 | 16.45 |
| TataConsumerProduct | 1193.65 | -14.70 |
| Tata Motors | 1096.65 | -47.75 |
| Tata Steel | 158.22 | -4.84 |
| TCS | 4283.05 | -114.05 |
| Tech Mahindra | 1507.70 | -36.75 |
| Titan | 3462.35 | -6.00 |
| UltraTech Cement | 11764.50 | -220.00 |
| Wipro | 502.15 | -19.40 |

### EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on August 02

| CURRENCY | TT BUY | TT SELL |
|---|---|---|
| US Dollar | 83.55 | 83.87 |
| Euro | 90.51 | 90.85 |
| British Pound | 106.48 | 106.89 |
| Japanese Yen (100) | 56.07 | 56.29 |
| Chinese Yuan | 11.60 | 11.64 |
| Swiss Franc | 95.96 | 96.33 |
| Singapore Dollar | 62.74 | 62.99 |
| Canadian Dollar | 60.20 | 60.44 |
| Malaysian Ringitt | 18.57 | 18.66 |
| Australian Dollar | 54.42 | 54.63 |

Source:Indian Bank

# Rane Holdings Q1 net surges 61% to ₹19.5 cr.

**The Hindu Bureau**
CHENNAI

Rane Holdings Ltd. (RHL) reported consolidated net profit rose 61% from a year earlier to ₹19.5 crore.

Revenue from operations contracted by 7% to ₹831 crore, the holding company of the Rane group said in statement.

Revenue from Indian original equipment customers grew by 9% supported by strong growth in passenger vehicle segment, while revenue from Indian aftermarket segment decreased by 1%.

**Global revenue dips**

Rane Holdings' revenue from international customers decreased by 17% predominantly on account of

divestment of Rane Light Metal Casting Inc.'s business.

On an organic basis, it declined by 5% due to end of certain customer programme for steering and occupant safety products.

The board approved reappointment of Vice Chairman Harish Lakshman as Joint Managing Director for a period of five years from August 1.

# 'CCI procures 33 lakh bales cotton at MSP'

**The Hindu Bureau**
COIMBATORE

The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has procured 33 lakh bales of cotton at Minimum Support Price (MSP) from farmers during the current cotton season that will end next month.

CCI CMD Lalit Kumar Gupta told *The Hindu* that it holds two e-auctions every day – one for textile mills and another for all buyers. The offtake by mills was low reportedly because of yarn stocks with the mills and slowdown in demand. It sold only 25,000-30,000 bales of cotton for almost 25 days. However, the sales picked up on Thursday when it sold 20,000 bales. The CCI currently holds almost 20 lakh bales stock.

"We need to be prepared for the next cotton season (that will start in October) as we expect heavy MSP operations," Mr. Kumar said.

In order to boost sales to textile mills, the CCI allows the mills to take delivery in 60 days from August 1 and has appealed to the mills to cover their stock requirements for the current cotton season.

# Set quarterly revenue record in India: Cook

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Apple, the Cupertino-based iPhone maker, on Friday said it saw record revenue growth across more than two dozen geographies, including India in the June-ended quarter.

Apple reported a new revenue record of $85.8 billion, up 5% from a year earlier, and better than what it had expected. EPS grew in double digits to $1.40 and achieved a record for the June quarter, according to CEO Tim Cook.

"We also set quarterly revenue records in more than two dozen countries and regions," he said.

# NCLAT okays Byju's-BCCI pact, sets aside insolvency order

**Sanjay Vijayakumar**
CHENNAI

The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT), Chennai accepted the settlement agreement between Byju's and the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) and set aside the order directing insolvency proceedings against Bjyu's parent Think and Learn Private Limited.

National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), Bengaluru ordered insolvency proceedings against Think & Learn on July 16 in a case filed by BCCI claiming a default of ₹158 crore.

Byju Raveendran, suspended director, shareholder and promoter of the edtech firm, moved an appeal before NCLAT.

Riju Raveendran, brother of Byju Raveendran and the largest shareholder of Think & Learn, offered to pay from personal funds.

He said while ₹50 crore had already been paid via RTGS, ₹25 crore would be paid on August 2 through RTGS and a sum of ₹83 crore would be paid on or before August 9 via RTGS.

The lenders opposed the settlement proposal questioning the source of funds alleging it was tainted money and argued settlement to the BCCI was a preferential transaction violating the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code.

In 2021, U.S. lenders, represented by Glas Trust, disbursed $1.2 billion to Byju's Alpha, a step-down subsidiary of Think and Learn and a missing $533 million of the amount was the subject matter of a dispute between the parties before the Delaware Court.

In his undertaking to NCLAT, Riju Raveendran said his proposal was not in violation of any order and it has nothing to do with the $533 million.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to inform the general public that my client intent to purchase/ enter into Agreement of sale/ Sale Deed, in respect of the schedule property with the present owner **MAMATHA .A**, D/o Ashwathnarayanappa .A, Residing at Kesthuru Village, Kasaba Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk. Any person/s, financial institution, banks, having or claiming any manner of right, title lien or interest in respect to the schedule property, may intimate the same in writing to the undersigned along with documentary evidence in support of their claim within 7 days from the date of this publications. Failing which it will be deemed that there are no claims, right title & interest by anybody & my client will proceed for completion of sale transaction & thereafter no claims will be considered.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

All the piece and parcel of the Agricultural Dry Land being Eastern Portion of **Sy. No. 32/3**, old Sy. No. 32, measuring an extent of **1 Acre 10 guntas,** out of 5 Acres, situated at THIMMASANDRA VILLAGE, Kasaba Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, and bounded on the :
**East By : Land Sy. No. 36, West By : Remaining Portion of Land New Sy. No. 32/3, North By : Land New Sy. No. 32/4, South By:Land In Sy. No. 32/2 Belongs to Nagabhushan. A**

**H. A. AMARNATH , Advocate**
**#272, 2nd Block Rt Nagar, Bangalore - 560 032.**
**Mobile NO: 7899865859 | 9902775522**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to inform the general public that my client intent to purchase/ enter into Agreement of sale/ Sale Deed, in respect of the schedule property with the present owner **DAYANANDA A**, S/o Ashwathnarayanappa .A, Residing at Thimmasandra Village, Majara, Gaddambachahalli, Rajaghatta Post, Kasaba Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk. Any person/s, financial institution, banks, having or claiming any manner of right, title lien or interest in respect to the schedule property, may intimate the same in writing to the undersigned along with documentary evidence in support of their claim within 7 days from the date of this publications. Failing which it will be deemed that there are no claims, right title & interest by anybody & my client will proceed for completion of sale transaction & thereafter no claims will be considered.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

All the piece and parcel of the Agricultural Dry Land being Eastern Portion of **Sy. No. 32/4**, old Sy. No. 32, measuring an extent of **1 Acre 10 guntas,** out of 5 Acres 20 guntas, situated at THIMMASANDRA VILLAGE, Kasaba Hobli, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, and bounded on the :
**East By : Land Sy. No. 36 West By: Remaining Portion of Land New Sy. No. 32/4, North By : Road, South By : Land Sy. No. 32/3 Belongs to Mamatha .A**

**H. A. AMARNATH , Advocate**
**#272, 2nd Block Rt Nagar, Bangalore - 560 032.**
**Mobile NO: 7899865859 | 9902775522**

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
**ಕೃಷಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಕೊಪ್ಪಳ**
ಜಂಟಿ ಕೃಷಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಕೃಷಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಡಳಿತ ಭವನ, ಕೊಪ್ಪಳ
ದೂ.–08539–221633 ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್ : 220226

**JDAK/OS/AC/1/2024-25/792** **Date: 01.08.2024**

**Tender Notification**

Joint Director of Agriculture Koppal is invites Man Power supply agencies for the supply Technical Assistant-20 And Driver-21 Total-41 Karnataka Transparency in public procurement act 1999 Through e-procurement for one year of 2024-25. Interested Bidders are visit e-procurement portal http.//kppp.karnataka.gov.in

**(1)** Tender publishing date: **01.08.2024 (2)** Approximate tender Annual cost: **83,43,329/- (3)** EMD Amount: **1,00,000/- (4)** Last Date for submission of tender: **12.08.2024 Time:05:30 PM (5)** Time, Date and Place opening of technical bid: Joint Director Of Agriculture Office, Koppal-583231 **Date:14.08.2024 Time:11:00 AM (6)** Time, Date and Place Opening of Financial bid: Joint Director Of Agriculture Office, Koppal-583231: **Date:17.08.2024 Time:11:00 AM**

**Sd/- Joint Director of Agriculture Koppal**
**DIPR/Koppal/217/2024-25/DeshpandePublicity**

Government of Karnataka
ಕ್ರಾಫರ್ಡ್ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಸಕಲೇಶಪುರ,
(ವಿಭಾಗೀಯ ಮಟ್ಟದ 150 ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ)
**CRAWFORD GENERAL HOSPITAL, SAKALESHAPURA - 573 134 (150 Bed Sub-divisional Hospital)**
email:crawfordhospital@gmail.com phone:08173-243098
Sl/No/CGHS/Group D/Non Clinic/Tender/241/2023-24
Date 29/07/2024

**"E" Procurement Re-Tender Notification**

Tender is Invited through "E" Procurementportal to Provide a total of 25 manpower on outsource basis (Group-D+ Non Clinical) to Crawford General Hospital, Sakalespura with total of 150 Beds. Tenders can be submitted from 29/07/2024. Deadline for receipt to tender is 06/08/2024 4.30pm Estimated Tender Amount Rs.65,00,000.00, EMD Rs. 13,00,000.00 For More information visit www.kppp.karnataka.gov. in

**sd/- Administrative Medical Officer, Crawford General Hospital, Sakaleshpura tq, Hassan Dist**
ವಾಸಾಸಂ೧/ಹಿಸನ/ಹಾಸನ/252/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2024–25

**BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE**
**Office of the Executive Engineer, K.R. Pura Division, Old Madras Road, K.R. Pura, Bangalore - 560 036.**

**No.EE/KRP/TND/02/2024-25** **Date:02.08.2024**

**INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)**
**(Through GOK KPP Portal only)** **(Single Cover System)**

The Executive Engineer, K.R. Pura Division, invites the item rate tenders from eligible contractors for the works detailed in the table below.

**Name of the Work :** Demolition of Unauthorised building constructed & Providing Tools, Plants, Machinery and manpower for demolition of buildings in various wards of K.R. Pura Division.

**CALL-2**

***Reserved for Others Category***

| Sl. No. | Ward No. | Est. Cost (in Rs.) | EMD (in Rs.) | No. of Works |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Basavanapura Ward No. 92 (Old. No. 53) | 90,000 each | 2,250 each | 02 |
| 2 | Vignana Nagara Ward No. 95 (Old. No. 81) | 99,500 &1,00,000 | 2,500 each | 02 |
| ***Reserved for SC Category*** | | | | |
| 3 | Basavanapura Ward No. 92 (Old. No. 53) | 70,000 each | 875 each | 02 |
| ***Reserved for ST Category*** | | | | |
| 4 | Basavanapura Ward No. 92 (Old. No. 53) | 70,000 each | 875 each | 01 |

**CALL-1**

***Reserved for Others Category***

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | Vijinapura Ward No. 51 (Old. No. 89) | 90,000 each | 2,250 each | 01 |
| 6 | Basavanapura Ward No. 92 (Old. No. 53) | 90,000 each | 2,250 each | 08 |
| ***Reserved for SC Category*** | | | | |
| 7 | Basavanapura Ward No. 92 (Old. No. 53) | 90,000 each | 1,125 each | 03 |
| | | | **Total Works** | **19** |

**1)** Tender documents may be downloaded from GOK KPP portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** **2)** Last date for Queries: **12.08.2024 upto 4.00 p.m. 3)** Last date for submission of tender documents:**13.08.2024 upto 4.00 p.m. 4)** Opening of tenders: **14.08.2024 at 4.30 p.m.** Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours & also from website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

**Sd/- Executive Engineer, K.R. Pura Division.**

ABUJA

## At least 13 dead as protesters hit Nigerian streets over govt. policies

AFP

At least 13 persons died in protests over economic hardship in Nigeria on Thursday, according to Amnesty International, which accused security forces of killing peaceful demonstrators. Thousands took to the streets in cities across Nigeria to protest against government policies and the high cost of living. AFP

WASHINGTON

## U.S. sues TikTok over privacy violations of children under 13

REUTERS

The U.S. Justice Department filed a lawsuit against TikTok and parent company ByteDance for failing to protect children's privacy on the social media app. The government said TikTok violated a law that requires services aimed at children to obtain parental consent to collect personal information from users under age 13. REUTERS

SYDNEY

## Australia blames 'serious failures' for Israeli strike on WCK convoy

REUTERS

An Israeli strike that killed seven charity workers in a Gaza aid convoy was the result of "mistaken identification" and a raft of other serious failures, the Australian government found in a report on Friday. An Australian women was among the group of seven World Central Kitchen staff killed by a Israeli strike in April. AFP

CARACAS

## Opposition headquarters invaded in Venezuela, govt. claims coup bid

AP

Vente Venezuela, the movement headed by Venezuela's opposition leader Maria Corina Machado, on Friday said its headquarters was vandalised amid ongoing tensions over a disputed presidential election, as the country's Foreign Minister said the U.S. was at the forefront of what the government says is a coup attempt. REUTERS

## Harris secures Democratic presidential nomination

**Agence France-Presse**
WASHINGTON

U.S. Vice-President Kamala Harris effectively secured the Democratic party's presidential nomination on Friday, confirming her rise to party standard bearer in November's showdown against Republican Donald Trump.

Ms. Harris was the sole candidate on the ballot of nearly 4,000 party convention delegates. She will be officially crowned later this month.

No other Democrats stepped forward to challenge her elevation to the top of the ticket, making her confirmation as the first Black and South Asian woman ever to secure a major party's nomination a formality.

# Slain Hamas chief buried in Qatar amid vows of revenge

Haniyeh's death will only make Hamas more determined to continue its fight for a free Palestine, says Khaled Meshaal, his predecessor; the Islamist militant group calls for 'a day of furious rage'

**Agence France-Presse**
**Reuters**
DOHA

Mourners and supporters bid farewell on Friday in Qatar to Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh after his killing in Tehran, blamed on Israel, has heightened regional tensions as the Gaza war dragged on. Thousands of people gathered at the Gulf emirate's largest mosque, where Haniyeh's casket, draped in a Palestinian flag, was taken before leaving again for burial in Lusail, north of Doha.

Haniyeh's predecessor Khaled Meshaal spoke at the ceremony, saying the slain leader had "served his cause, his people".

**Final adieu:** Senior Hamas official Khalil al-Hayya, centre, praying near the coffins of Ismail Haniyeh and his bodyguard on Friday. AP

Mr. Meshaal said his death would only make the group more determined to continue its fight for a free Palestine. There would be no concessions over its principles and no recognition of Israel, he said.

"Palestine will remain from the river to the sea...and the Zionists (Israel) have no place on the land of Palestine, regardless of how many they kill of us," Mr. Meshaal said in a video released by Hamas.

"Our enemies don't learn the lesson, they have been killing our leaders for over 100 years, what happened? When a leader ascends (to heaven) another leader comes," he said.

Senior Hamas official Sami Abu Zuhri told Reuters by phone: "Our message to the occupation (Israel) today is that you are sinking deep in the mud and your end is getting closer than ever. The blood of Haniyeh will change all equations."

Hamas called for a "day of furious rage".

# India faces 'dilemma' amid rising Iran-Israel tensions over Ismail Haniyeh's killing

NEWS ANALYSIS

**Suhasini Haidar**
NEW DELHI

آیین تحلیف چهاردهمین دوره ریاست جمهوری اسلامی ایران
The Islamic Republic of Iran's 14th Presidential Inauguration Ceremony
مراسم أداء اليمين الدستورية لرئاسة الجمهورية الإسلامية الإيرانية في دورتها الرابعة عشرة
Cérémonie de Prestation de Serment du 14ème Mandat Présidentiel de la République Islamique d'Iran

Nitin Gadkari was in Iran to attend the swearing-in of the new President when the attack against Ismail Haniyeh happened. PTI

India's silence for another day on rising tensions between Iran and Israel over the killing of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh reflects its "dilemma" in trying to balance ties with both countries, say experts. The assassination of Mr. Haniyeh, the political chief of the group that carried out the October 7 terror attacks in Israel, who was also Hamas's lead negotiator with Israel and other countries on a possible ceasefire deal and hostage release negotiations that have failed to fructify for months, is likely to put a pause on the peace process under way.

While the Ministry of External Affairs has put out a travel advisory for Indians in Israel and Lebanon, and is likely to update travel advisories for other parts of the region, sources said there would be no statement on the Haniyeh killing itself.

"The assassination is definitely a major event for India, because it has happened very close to India's neighbourhood," said Sujatha Aishwarya, Professor at Jamia Milia University's School of West Asian Studies. "But the government appears to be in a dilemma as to how to respond to the event," she added, citing India's close ties with Iran and Israel as a factor.

Adding to the complications for New Delhi, India had sent Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari to Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian's inauguration and Mr. Gadkari was in Tehran when Haniyeh was killed and had been in a group photo with Haniyeh, as well as Hezbollah leaders along with dozens of international dignitaries attending.

**Indian workers**

While India condemned the October 7 attacks in Israel as terrorist acts, the government has not banned Hamas as a terror group, despite requests from Israel. On the other hand, the government has facilitated the transfer of at least 5,000 construction workers and plans for about 5,000 caregivers to travel to Israel to fill in for jobs where Palestinian workers were terminated after the October 7 attacks. With Air India putting off flights to Tel Aviv for this week, and more travel advisories expected, the transfer of Indian workers may also be put on hold.

"India will want to issue any statement only after it carefully studies how it might impact ties with Israel, which are critical in certain security and military areas, and also Iran, where [India] has important, critical economic stakes involved," Ms. Aishwarya concluded.

Others said New Delhi may also be concerned about the impact of the tensions on two recent initiatives: the India-Middle East Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC) launched last September, and the 10-year India-Iran MoU for additional development of Chabahar port signed in June this year.

While bilateral talks on the IMEEC plan with various partners, including the UAE, Jordan and Greece, have taken place, the steering committee of all IMEEC countries has been unable to meet due to West Asian tensions for nearly a year. Any conflict in the region, and the implementation of any U.S. sanctions will also impact India's plans for Chabahar port, including land connectivity to Afghanistan and Central Asia. In addition, the India-Israel-UAE-U.S. I2U2 initiative and plans to connect Indian cargo routes through the International North South Transport Corridor to Russia could also be affected.

## Myanmar air strikes on border hospital near China kill 10

**Agence France-Presse**
BANGKOK

Myanmar military air strikes hit a hospital in a city controlled by an ethnic minority armed group close to the China border killing 10 persons, local media reported on Friday.

Military planes carried out at least two air strikes on Laukkai city, normally home to some 25,000 people, late on Thursday night, a local resident had said.

Local media outlets quoted one resident as saying 10 civilians were killed in the air strikes.

The Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA) group have held Laukkai since January after more than 2,000 junta troops surrendered there in one of the military's biggest defeats in decades.

**Junta strikes**

The junta has bombed Laukkai several times in recent weeks after the MNDAA renewed its offensive in northern Shan State, shredding a Beijing-brokered ceasefire.

## U.S. citizens land in Texas after huge prisoner swap with Russia

**Agence France-Presse**
SAN ANTONIO

**Light of day:** (from left) Alsu Kurmasheva, Paul Whelan and Evan Gershkovich after arriving in Texas on Friday. AFP

Journalist Evan Gershkovich and two other Americans touched down in Texas on Friday for medical checks, after being freed by Russia in a huge prisoner swap.

*Wall Street Journal* reporter Gershkovich, former U.S. marine Paul Whelan, and journalist Alsu Kurmasheva had hours earlier been greeted by President Joe Biden and Vice-President Kamala Harris during a brief stopover near Washington.

Their arrival on U.S. soil on Thursday was met by cheers from family.

They were among two dozen detainees released earlier on Thursday in the biggest East-West prisoner swap since the Cold War.

A fourth prisoner, Vladimir Kara-Murza, a Russian Kremlin critic with U.S. residency, was also among those freed but was returning separately to the U.S.

# Sport

## Downtown Heroes rides on Snorton's brace

DURAND CUP

**Sports Bureau**
KOLKATA

Downtown Heroes FC, a new entrant to the Indian club football scenario, picked up its first win of the Durand Cup by downing Indian Air Force team 2-0 in a Group A league match at the Salt Lake Stadium here on Friday.

Liberian forward Darius Snorton found the target once in each half to secure the win for the Srinagar-based team, which was founded in July 2021.

Downtown Heroes, which lost its opening match against holder Mohun Bagan Super Giant, began strongly against the airmen, who could not do much on the attacking front.

**Hero!** Snorton scored once in each half to give the debutant Heroes their first win. DEBASISH BHADURI

Snorton found the first goal in the 29th minute off an assist from his upfront colleague Aafreen Bashara.

He secured the win for Heroes late in the 84th minute after making the most of a lapse committed by the IAF defence.

In another match, Wadjied Ryngkhlem's early strike helped host Shillong Lajong beat Nepal's Tribhuvan Army FC by a solitary goal in the opening Group F match at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium.

**The results: Group A:**
Downtown Heroes FC 2 (Darius Snorton 29, 84) bt Indian Air Force 0.

**Group F:** Shillong Lajong FC 1 (Wadajied Ryngkhlem 7) bt Tribhuvan Army FC 0.

## Excellent Lass and African Gold favoured

RACING

BENGALURU: Rajesh Narredu's ward Excellent Lass, who has been well tuned, is expected to score in the Fillies Championship Stakes (1,600m), while African Gold, who maintains form, may complete a hat-trick in the Colts Championship Stakes (1,600m), the stellar attraction of the first two Classic events of the season to be held here on Saturday (Aug 3). There will be no false rails.

**1** GUINDY PLATE (1,200m), rated 00 to 25, 5-y-o & over, 12-45 p.m.: 1 Phoenix Surprise (4) Faizan Khan 62.5, 2. Blues Ballad (3) Sai Kiran 60.5, 3. Chiraag (7) P. Mani 59, 4. Recreator (5) G. Vivek 57, 5. Akasi (6) Arvind K 56, 6. Air Blast (2) Tauseef 55.5, 7. Meghann (1) Jagadeesh 55.5 and 8. Burning Arrow (8) Kiran Rai 54.5.

**1. RECREATOR, 2. BLUES BALLAD, 3. AKASI**

**2** MALENAHALLI PLATE (1,100m), rated 00 to 25, 1-15: 1. Springsteen (7) S.J. Moulin 62.5, 2. Tropical Mist (5) M. Naveen 62, 3. Benzema (6) Koshi K 61.5, 4. Estefania (8) Antony 59.5, 5. Loving Pearl (3) Dhanu S 59, 6. Striking Eyes (2) G. Vivek 58, 7. Master Of Courage (4) Arvind K 57.5 and 8. Superhero (1) Rayan 57.

**1. ESTEFANIA, 2. STRIKING EYES, 3. LOVING PEARL**

**3** YOUNGSTERS PLATE (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 1-45: 1. Amazing Rules (13) Sandesh 60, 2. Step To Destiny (1) Faizan Khan 60, 3. Crimson Flame (2) S.J. Moulin 58.5, 4. The Grey Geranium (11) M. Naveen 58, 5. Magical Bay (12) Akshay K 57.5, 6. Southernaristocrat (8) Arshad 57.5, 7. The Golden Dream (9) Sai Kiran 57.5, 8. Selhurst Park (4) Dhanu S 55, 9. Super Bold (3) Rayan 53.5, 10. Avicena (5) Neeraj 51.5, 11. Double Scotch (6) R. Girish 51.5, 12. Empress Bella (10) Vinod Shinde 51 and 13. Mystical Air (7) G. Vivek 51.

**1. AMAZING RULER, 2. AVICENA, 3. MAGICAL BAY**

**4** JUSTICE P. MEDAPA MEMORIAL CUP (1,600m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 2-15: 1. Amazing Stride (9) Sandesh 56, 2. Mescalito (11) Akshay K 56, 3. Michiko (8) Arvind K 56, 4. Pursuit Of Wealth (6) Darshan 56, 5. Rock Bank (10) Dhanu S 56, 6. Storm Shadow (1) Suraj 56, 7. Verrazzano (5) Vinod Shinde 56, 8. Victor Hugo (3) G. Vivek 56, 9. Westlake (7) Antony 56, 10. Art Of Romance (2) Sai Kiran 54.5 and 11. Bowen (4) Tousif 54.5.

**1. AMAZING STRIDE, 2. VICTOR HUGO, 3. STORM SHADOW**

**5** BRIG R.C.R HILL MEMORIAL CUP (1,200m), rated 40 to 65, 5-y-o & over, 2-45: 1. Maple Leaf (6) Tousif 60.5, 2. Macron (1) Arvind K 57.5, 3. Solo Prince (7) Darshan 56, 4. Indian Blues (5) Kiran Rai 55, 5. The Perfect Choice (2) Sai Kiran 53.5, 6. Southern Force (3) Neeraj 53, 7. Millbrook (4) Jagadeesh 52 and 8. Ultimate Striker (8) P. Siddaraju 50.5.

**1. MACRON, 2. THE PERFECT CHOICE, 3. INDIAN BLUES**

**6** FILLIES CHAMPIONSHIP STAKES (1,600m), 3-y-o fillies, (Terms), 3-15: 1. Balmoral (2) Akshay K 56, 2. Del Aviz (7) G. Vivek 56, 3. Excellent Lass (5) Suraj 56, 4. Magnetic (8) Sandesh 56, 5. Masaki (6) Sai Kiran 56, 6. Nyx (3) J. Chinoy 56, 7. Scarlette Lady (4) Dhanu S 56 and 8. Tesorino (1) Antony 56.

**1. EXCELLENT LASS, 2. MASAKI, 3. BALMORAL**

**7** STEWARDS CUP (1,400m), rated 60 to 85, 3-45: 1. Philosophy (1) Sandesh 60, 2. Prana (9) Suraj 59, 3. Ravishing Form (7) Antony 59, 4. Galahad (4) Akshay K 58, 5. English Bay (2) Rayan 57, 6. Vivaldo (5) G. Vivek 56, 7. Fondness Of You (6) P. Siddaraju 54.5, 8. Grizzly (3) Sai Kiran 52.5 and 9. Aralina (8) Neeraj 51.5.

**1. GALAHAD, 2. ARALINA, 3. PRANA**

**8** COLTS CHAMPIONSHIP STAKES (1,600m), 3-y-o colts and geldings, (Terms), 4-15: 1. African Gold (3) Akshay K 56, 2. Casteel (4) Suraj 56, 3. Flight On (2) Sandesh 56, 4. Mandarino (1) Antony 56, 5. Mansa Musa (5) C. Umesh 56 and 6. Santissimo (6) G. Vivek 56.

**1. AFRICAN GOLD, 2. SANTISSIMO**

**9** MARILINGAIAH MEMORIAL CUP (1,100m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 4-45: 1. Defence Counsel (5) S.K. Paswan 56, 2. Forever Royal (8) J. Chinoy 56, 3. Gismo (6) P. Mani 56, 4. Helios (11) Sandesh 56, 5. Straordinario (7) Neeraj 56, 6. Thutmose (12) Darshan 56, 7. Ananya (2) Koshi K 54.5, 8. Days Date (10) B.R. Kumar 54.5, 9. Divine Art (4) Suraj 54.5, 10. Havaska (1) Antony 54.5, 11. Jully (9) Arshad 54.5, 12. Loveisgod (13) Jagadeesh 54.5, 13. Martino (3) Sai Kiran 54.5 and 14. Mriga (14) Dhanu S 54.5.

**1. DIVINE ART, 2. MARTINO, 3. HELIOS**

**10** RICHELIEU PLATE (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 5-15: 1. Breeze Bluster (7) Faizan Khan 62.5, 2. General Patton (2) Antony 61, 3. Lauterbrunnen (8) M. Rajesh K 59.5, 4. Altamonte (4) Vivek 58, 5. Dawn Rising (3) Arshad 54.5, 6. Debonair (5) Rayan 53, 7. Sling Shot (1) Koshi K 52.5 and 8. Embosom (6) Shreyas S 52.

**1. GENERAL PATTON, 2. DEBONAIR, 3. BREEZE BLUSTER**

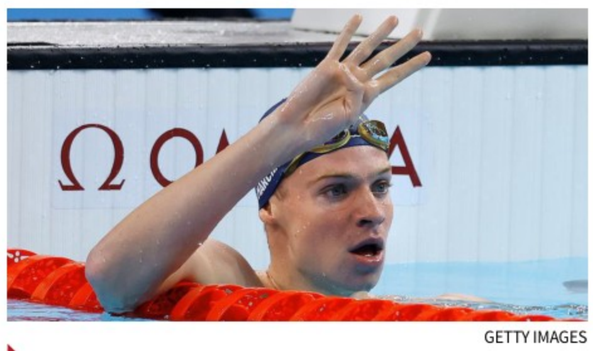
Day's best: **AMAZING RULER**

Double: **GALAHAD – DIVINE ART**

Jkt: 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10; Tr (i): 2, 3 and 4; (ii): 5, 6 and 7; (iii): 8, 9 and 10.

PHENOM

## Marchand wins a fourth gold with an Olympic record to boot



GETTY IMAGES

French swimming superstar Leon Marchand won his fourth gold medal of the Paris Games with an emphatic victory in the men's 200m individual medley on Friday. Marchand won in 1min 54.06sec, the second-fastest time in history and an Olympic record, with Britain's Duncan Scott taking silver and China's Wang Shun third.

DETHRONED

## Douglass upstages Smith in women's 200m breaststroke

REUTERS

Kate Douglass of the United States held off South African favourite Tatjana Smith to win a thrilling women's 200m breaststroke final on Thursday. Smith, the defending champion, established an early lead but Douglass was impressive at the turns as she finished in a time of 2min 19.24sec. Tes Schouten of the Netherlands took bronze.

RECORD SWIM

## Australia claims 4x200m freestyle relay with second-fastest time ever

AFP

An Australian team spearheaded by Mollie O'Callaghan and Ariarne Titmus won the women's 4x200m freestyle relay gold in the second-fastest time ever. Led off by O'Callaghan and brought home by Titmus, with Lani Pallister and Brianna Throssell in the middle legs, they touched in an Olympic-record 7min, 38.08sec.

HUNGARY'S FIRST

## Kos takes the honours in the men's 200m backstroke

AP

Hubert Kos took Hungary's first swimming gold in Paris by winning the men's 200m backstroke. Working with Michael Phelps' former coach Bob Bowman, he came from behind to touch out in one minute 54.26 seconds, 0.56 ahead of Greek silver medallist Apostolos Christou. Switzerland's Roman Mityukov took bronze.

# Impressive India edges past nemesis Australia in a thriller

The team notches up its first victory over the Kookaburras at the Olympics since the 1972 Munich Games; skipper Harmanpreet continues his good form, scoring twice in the match while Abhishek nets for the second game running

**Press Trust of India**
PARIS

**On the ball:** Abhishek drew first blood for the second consecutive game, drilling home a rebound in the 12th minute. GETTY IMAGES

Skipper Harmanpreet Singh scored a brace as the Indian men's hockey team registered a 3-2 win over Tokyo Games silver medallist Australia in its final Pool B match.

Already assured of a quarterfinal berth before Friday's encounter, the Indians played valiantly and dominated the proceedings for the major part of the match to stun the Kookaburras, against whom they last won in the 1972 Munich Olympics.

India delivered a power-packed performance, playing attacking hockey from the beginning, and defending well throughout.

Abhishek (12th), skipper Harmanpreet (13th, 32nd) scored for India while Tom Craig (25th) and Blake Govers (55) found the target for Australia.

With this win, India will most likely finish its pool engagements in the second position with 10 points, behind table-topper Belgium (12).

India stunned Australia by taking the lead through Abhishek. Lalit attempted a shot which was saved by Andrew Charter. Abhishek got the ball on the rebound, turned, and hammered it past the rival goalkeeper.

A minute later, India got a penalty corner when the ball touched the foot of Jake Harvie, and Harmanpreet beat Charter's defence with a fierce grounded flick.

Australia got its third penalty corner in the 25th minute.

It was a poor injection from skipper Aran Zalewski but it somehow turned into a goal as the Kookaburras recovered quickly to pass it to an unmarked Craig at the second post, who deflected the ball in.

India earned a third penalty corner when Manpreet Singh was tackled by an Australian defender. Harmanpreet's goalmouth strike was obstructed by Flynn Ogilvie which India reviewed. The referral resulted in a penalty stroke and the India skipper made no mistake in converting the chance.

In the 53rd minute, Abhishek scored another fine goal after he was fed by Mandeep but the goal was ruled out for a stick check.

Five minutes from the final hooter, Govers scored his seventh goal from a penalty stroke to reduce the margin.

Thereafter, the Indian defence stood tall to register a famous win.

**The result:** India 3 (Abhishek 12, Harmanpreet 13, 32) bt Australia 2 (Craig 25, Govers 55).

### Breaking a 52-year jinx

The Indian hockey team tasted success against Australia at the Olympics for the first time since the 1972 Munich Games

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **1972** | **Munich** | **India won 3-1** |
| 1976 | Montreal | India lost 1-6 |
| 1980 | Moscow | Australia didn't compete |
| 1984 | Los Angeles | India lost 2-4 |
| 1988 | Seoul | Did not meet |
| 1992 | Barcelona | India lost 0-1 |
| 1996 | Atlanta | Did not meet |
| 2000 | Sydney | Match drawn 2-2 |
| 2004 | Athens | India lost 3-4 |
| 2008 | Beijing | India didn't qualify |
| 2012 | London | Did not meet |
| 2016 | Rio | Did not meet |
| 2020 | Tokyo | India lost 1-7 |
| **2024** | **Paris** | **India bt Australia 3-2** |

# Ankita and Dhiraj stumble in the bronze medal clash after a game fight

**Y.B. Sarangi**
PARIS

**So close:** While Ankita admitted to feeling the pressure, Dhiraj said they lacked minor things. PTI

It was yet another case of 'so near yet so far' for India.

At the magnificent setting of the 17th century Invalides arena, with the Eiffel Tower, the Grand Palais and the Army Museum standing as witness, Indian archers made a bit of history by making it to the mixed team bronze medal match, but fell short of cornering Olympic glory in Paris 2024.

Like several much-talked about fourth-place finishes – including legends such as Milkha Singh, P.T. Usha and Dipa Karmakar – the one here involving Ankita Bhakat and B. Dhiraj, hailing from Kolkata and Vijayawada respectively, has the power to give Indian archery a big morale-boosting push.

The Indian duo overcame the absence of Korean coach Baek Woong Ki to shoot consistently well and won two rounds before losing to powerhouse Korea and then a more experienced USA in the bronze medal duel.

**Composure**

Ankita and Dhiraj, who emerged as the best archers of the country in respective ranking rounds but performed the worst in team events, shot with composure to help fifth-ranked India beat the 12th ranked Indonesian duo of Diananda Choirunisa and Arif Pangetsu 5-1.

In the quarterfinals, Ankita-Dhiraj saw off 13th-placed Spain, comprising World Cup stage team gold medallists Elia Canales and Pablo Acha 5-3 following a keen contest.

After taking the first set and sharing honours in the second, the Indians dropped their intensity a shade to see the scores level at 3-3 before regaining rhythm to better the Spaniards.

**Bright start**

They began on a bright note against Korea before losing 6-2 in the semifinals.

It looked like the Indians would do the unthinkable by beating Asian Games champion Lim Sihyeon and multiple Olympic and Worlds team gold medallist Kim Woo-jin, when the Koreans unexpectedly began with an 8 and a 9 and allowed Ankita-Dhiraj to claim the first set.

The soon the Koreans were in their element and carried on with the momentum.

In the bronze medal playoff against the third-ranked USA's Worlds silver medallist and World No.1 Casey Kaufhold and multiple Olympics and World championships medallist Brady Ellison, India put up a brief fight before bowing out 6-2.

**Crumbling**

The pressure of the big stage and the hot and windy afternoon played its part as Ankita crumbled with two 7s in her opening attempts. It handed the USA the set and upper hand to take a 4-0 lead.

The Indians clawed back strongly to secure the third set as USA slipped a bit due to Casey's 7 and 8.

Even though Dhiraj maintained his cool to hit the yellow zone, two 8s from Ankita in the final set dashed India's hopes.

**Objective analysis**

"We never came inside the top-four. It's good for us that we're improving since the last few Olympics. We performed the same way as we normally do in the World Cups," said Dhiraj, veiling his emotions and analysing their performance objectively.

"There are the minor things that we've lacked, we'll work on them. This loss is painful, but it will make us stronger.

"The Olympic stage is different. When there's no limit (to the pressure)."

Ankita admitted that she was under pressure. "As we were moving forward, I was hoping for a medal.

"So, I took some pressure. There was some wind too. I couldn't control myself," she said.

# Manu qualifies for the final in 25m sports pistol

**Press Trust of India**
CHATEAUROUX

**Eyeing a third:** Manu, who has already made history, has a realistic opportunity to add to her haul. GETTY IMAGES

Indian shooter Manu Bhaker kept herself on track for a hat-trick of Olympic medals, coming up with one of her most memorable performances in her favourite event, the 25m sports pistol, as she booked a place in the final in second spot here on Friday.

The 22-year-old, who has already made history by becoming the first Indian athlete to win two bronze medals in one edition of the quadrennial showpiece, can add to her haul if she wins a third medal on Saturday, something which is well within her grasp after her commanding performance in the qualification round.

Manu, who continued to dominate the event and remained among the top three almost throughout the qualification phase of 'precision' and 'rapid' rounds, aggregated 590 to be placed second behind Hungary's Veronika Major who equalled the Olympic record with a score of 592.

**Marked improvement**

Manu, who has seen a marked improvement in her shooting after partnering with legendary shooter-turned-coach Jaspal Rana, has won the 10m women's air pistol bronze and 10m air pistol mixed team bronze pairing up with Sarabjot Singh.

She was in impregnable form in the sports pistol qualification rounds, firing 294 in the gruelling 'precision' round with scores of 97, 98 and 99.

The 'rapid round' brought out the best in her as she shot a perfect 100, followed by two 98s for an aggregate of 296.

India's upcoming shooter and multiple Hangzhou Asian Games medallist Esha Singh faltered, aggregating 581 (291 in precision and 290 in rapid) to finish 18th among 40 shooters and falling well short of the eight-shooter final.

The abysmal Indian performance in shotgun continued with skeet marksman Anantjeet Singh Naruka placed at 26th position with a score of 68 after day 1 of qualification.

The men's and women's trap shooters have already finished their assignments without making an impression.

Naruka fired three rounds of 25 each, which fetched him 23, 22 and 23. Legendary Vincent Hancock of the USA had three perfect rounds of 25 each and was leading the 28-shooter field.

Two more qualification rounds will take place on Saturday before the six finalists are shortlisted.

### THE INDIA SHOW

*A look at some of the Indian performances on Friday:*

**Archery:** Mixed Team: Bronze medal match: Ankita & Dhiraj lost to Kaufhold & Ellison (USA) 2-6; Semifinal: lost to Lim & Kim (Kor) 2-6; Quarterfinal: bt Canales & Acha (ESP) 5-3; 1/8 elimination: bt Choirunisa & Pangestu (Ina) 5-1.

**Athletics:** Women's 5000m (round 1): Ankita (20th in heat 1) and Parul (14th in heat 2), DNQ for final; Men's shot put: Tajinderpal (29th overall), DNQ for final.

**Badminton:** Men (quarterfinal): Lakshya bt Chou (Tpe) 19-21, 21-15, 21-12.

**Golf:** Men's Individual Stroke Play (round 2): Shubhankar (T25), Gaganjeet (T52).

**Judo:** Women: +78kg (elimination round-of-32): Tulika lost to Ortiz (Cub) 0-10.

**Hockey:** Men: bt Australia 3-2.

**Rowing:** Men's Single Sculls: Balraj (fifth in final D, 23rd overall).

**Sailing:** Women's Dinghy: Nethra (11th overall after three races); Men's Dinghy: Vishnu Saravanan (22nd overall after four races).

**Shooting:** 25m Pistol: 2. Manu (qualifies for final), 18. Esha, DNQ.

### INDIANS IN ACTION

*A look at some Indians who will compete on Saturday (all IST):*

**Archery:** Women's Individual (1/8 elimination): Deepika vs Kroppen (Ger), 1.50 p.m.; Bhajan vs Choirunisa (Ina), 2.05 p.m.

**Golf:** Men's Individual Stroke Play: Round 3 (Shubhankar, Gaganjeet), 12.30 p.m.

**Sailing:** Women's Dinghy (Nethra), 3.35 p.m.; Men's Dinghy (Vishnu Saravanan) 3.50 p.m.

**Shooting:** Skeet: Men's qualification - Day 2 (Anantjeet), 12.30 p.m.; Women's qualification - Day 1 (Raiza, Maheshwari), 12.30 p.m.; 25m pistol: Women's final: Manu (1 p.m.).

## INBRIEF

### Litvinovich and Page bounce to gold in trampoline

Ivan Litvinovich, a Belarusian competing as an individual neutral athlete, bounced his way to the men's gold medal in trampoline on Friday to successfully defend his title from the Tokyo Games. Litvinovich became the first gymnast to win multiple Olympic gold medals in the sport, beating silver medallist China's Wang Zisai by more than a point. Wang's compatriot Yan Langyu took bronze. Earlier, Great Britain's Bryony Page claimed gold in the women's event for her third Olympic medal-winning appearance. Viyaleta Bardzilouskaya, a Belarusian competing as an individual neutral athlete, clinched silver, while Canada's Sophiane Methot took bronze. The 33-year-old Page had long been on a quest for gold, having won the silver at the 2016 Rio Games and bronze at the Tokyo Olympics.

### Slovakian swimmer Potocka collapses after her heats

Slovakian swimmer Tamara Potocka collapsed poolside on Friday morning after a qualifying heat of the women's 200m individual medley. Potocka collapsed as she got out of the water and almost immediately was surrounded by a half-dozen medical attendants who put her on a stretcher after about a minute and carried her off the pool deck. Potocka finished seventh in her heat in a time of 2 minutes, 14.20 seconds.

### GOLDIES

**Hubert Kos (Hun):** *Men's 200m Backstroke*

**Kate Douglass (USA):** *Women's 200m Breaststroke*

**Australia (Mollie O'Callaghan, Ariarne Titmus, Lani Pallister, Brianna Throssell):** *Women's 4x200m Freestyle Relay*

**Cameron McEvoy (Aus):** *Men's 50m freestyle*

**Kaylee McKeown (Aus):** *Women's 200m backstroke*

**Leon Marchand (Fra):** *Men's 200m individual medley*

**USA:** *Women's Foil Team*

**Spain (Diego Botin & Florian Trettel):** *Men's Skiff*

**Netherlands (Odile van Aanholt & Annette Duetz):** *Women's Skiff*

**Chiara Leone (Sui):** *Women's 50m Rifle 3 Position*

**China (Wang Zongyuan & Long Daoyi):** *Men's Synchronised 3m Springboard*

**Croatia (Valent Sinkovic & Martin Sinkovic):** *Rowing Men's Pair*

**Netherlands (Ymkje Clevering & Veronique Meester):** *Rowing Women's Pair*

**Ireland (Paul O'Donovan & Fintan McCarthy):** *LWT Men's Double Sculls*

**Great Britain (Imogen Grant & Emily Craig):** *LWT Women's Double Sculls*

**Spain (Diego Botin & Florian Trettel):** *Sailing men's skiff*

**Netherlands (Odile van Aanholt & Annette Duetz):** *Sailing women's skiff*

**Great Britain (Ben Maher, Harry Charles, Scott Brash):** *Equestrian Men's team jumping*

**Bryony Page (GBr):** *Women's trampoline*

**Ivan Litvinovich (AIN):** Men's trampoline

**China (Zheng Si Wei & Huang Ya Qiong):** *Badminton Mixed Doubles*

**Korea (Lim Sihyeon and Kim Woojin):** *Archery Mixed Team*

**Beatriz Souza (Bra):** *Judo women's +78kg*

**Teddy Riner (Fra):** *Judo men's +100kg*

### GOING FOR GOLD

**Archery:** Women's Individual

**Artistic Gymnastics:** Men's Floor Exercise, Women's Vault, Men's Pommel Horse

**Athletics:** Men's Shot Put, Women's Triple Jump, 4x400m Mixed Relay, Women's 100m, Decathlon

**Badminton:** Women's Doubles

**Cycling Road:** Men

**Equestrian:** Dressage Team Grand Prix Special

**Fencing:** Women's Sabre Team

**Judo:** Mixed team

**Rowing:** Women's & Men's Single Sculls, Men's Eight Final

**Shooting:** Women's 25m Pistol, Men's Skeet

**Table Tennis:** Women's Singles Gold Medal

**Tennis:** Women's singles, Men's doubles

**Surfing:** Men & Women

**Swimming:** Men's 100m Butterfly, Women's 200m Individual Medley, Women's 800m Freestyle, Mixed 4 x 100m Medley Relay

# Lakshya storms into the semifinals

The Indian loses the first game to Chen before winning the next two; the 22-year-old becomes the first Indian male shuttler to enter the last four

**Jonathan Selvaraj**
PARIS

There's a tattoo down Lakshya Sen's neck that reads, "The sky is the limit".

Whether or not he gets there, at least an Olympic quarterfinal isn't the limit of his potential. No Indian men's singles badminton player had ever reached the final-four at the Olympics before Lakshya crashed through the door and made history at the Arena Porte de La Chapelle.

The path to history wasn't easy, with the 22-year-old from Almora having to overcoming a one-game deficit and push his defensive skills to the absolute limit to get the better of Taiwan's Chou Tien Chen 19-21, 21-15, 21-12.

**Proving his mettle:** Lakshya was on top of his game in a high-octane clash against Chen. AP

"It feels good to become the first Indian male to reach the Olympic semifinals. I'm happy. But I am also very tired. I need to rest before my next match," he said.

Lakshya came into the match on the back of tremendous momentum, having beaten All England and Asian champion Jonatan Christie and then compatriot H.S. Prannoy.

But he was far from the favourite against Chou, a 34-year-old veteran who also had a 3-1 advantage against the Indian. The first game saw Chou trying to surprise Lakshya by varying his pace and pulling out disguised trick shots to wrong foot the Indian.

Both both players tried to take control of the net, and although Lakshya had a single point lead at 18-17, the Taiwanese stuck to his tactics. Although Lakshya was scurrying around, he was putting in the work that would pay off late in the contest.

The first game might have been done but Chou knew he hadn't yet won. Every match the two have played has been a physical one. This was no exception. There was a moment in the second game, however, when Chou felt he had broken the Indian.

The two were locked 7-7 when, after a breathtaking rally that had it all – defensive shots piled on jump smashes paired with diving retrieves, shuttles catching the net cord and bobbling over and drop smashes – Chou hit a drive over Lakshya and found the backline of the court.

Although Lakshya challenged the call, there was no review on the big screen. The umpire, though, had seen the result on her private monitor and given the point to Chou. Although the Indian complained, there was nothing to do but play on.

From the coaches seat, former All England champion Prakash Padukone – at whose academy Lakshya trains – got up and yelled, "*Josh dikhao* (show energy), *josh dikhao*."

Lakshya was near breaking point, Chou hit a smash winner and shrieked as if he had actually won. But he hadn't yet. Lakshya soaked up all the pressure he was under and turned it around.

**Resilient**

At 11-11, it was Lakshya's turn to break the match, winning a point he shouldn't have. Completely wrong footed, he backtracked and hit a no-look retrieve back at Chou that forced an error.

As the match drew on, it was the 12-year younger Indian who seemed fresher. The match continued to be punctuated with fast, sharp, flat exchanges.

The errors in Chou's game became a flood as Lakshya extended his lead. He took the game and from then on, while Chou gamely tried to hold on, the Indian pulled ahead steadily.

"Lakshya was too fast today," Chou would admit after the match.

Just as his tattoo says, Lakshya may have pulled through but he is already looking even further.

"I'm going to rest for a bit and then I'm going to start preparing for my next match," he said.

# Afghan sprinter Yousoufi tells girls not to let others make decisions for them

**Jonathan Selvaraj**
PARIS

The record books will show that Afghanistan's Kimia Yousofi ran the slowest time in her preliminary round of the women's 100m competition at the Paris 2024 Olympics. Competing in her third Olympics – Rio de Janeiro and Tokyo – Yousofi finished with a time of 13.42 seconds, slower than the 13.29 three years ago. Most athletes would be disappointed at this point, with years of struggle and hard work culminating in a less-than-impressive finish.

But for Yousofi, this race is just the beginning. As the competition concludes, she removes the bib pinned to the back of her jersey, turns it around, eager to show the camera what is written on the other side. It's important that people see it.

Kimia Yousofi.

"Education, Sport, our right," it reads.

Each of the runners in the preliminary rounds has their own story. Faiqa Riaz, from Pakistan, is participating in her first international competition. She's never run in a stadium as big and filled with as many people as the Stade de France.

Iakopo Filomenaleonisa of Samoa, a former bodybuilder, has made a multi-day trip to Paris and set a national record (12.78). Regine Tugade-Watson of Guam is a former USA Naval Academy member. Each athlete is pursuing personal yet significant goals. Yousofi has her own story, too. But she's not running just for that. "Of course, the Olympic Games is a big dream for every athlete. I've run at the Tokyo Olympics and the Rio Olympics. But in them, I was running just for myself. But now I'm here for Afghanistan's girls," she says.

"I was in Kabul when the Taliban came. I wanted to stay because I felt I was from this country. My people needed me. But a lot of people told me they couldn't guarantee my safety. I was a woman with a public face because I'd carried the flag of Afghanistan just a few days before. I had to flee," Yousofi adds.

Yousofi is determined to fight for all Afghan women. "I had to choose between competing as a refugee or an Afghan. I was born not in Afghanistan but in Iran (her parents had fled to that country back in 1996 when she was born). So, when I opened my eyes for the first time, it was as a refugee. But I am an Afghan. I will always represent my women and people.

"I have a message for Afghan girls. Look for opportunities, and then use them. Don't give up. Don't let others make your decisions for you," she says.

# Djokovic sets up a dream summit clash with Alcaraz

**Agencies**
PARIS

A fired-up Novak Djokovic on Friday reached his first Olympic Games final, where he will face Carlos Alcaraz in a dream gold medal showdown.

The top-seeded Serb, seeking an elusive Olympic title to sit along his 24 Grand Slam crowns, defeated Lorenzo Musetti 6-4, 6-2 in a tense semifinal at Roland Garros.

Earlier, Spain's Alcaraz powered into the final with a brutal 6-1, 6-1 thrashing of overwhelmed Canadian Felix Auger-Aliassime.

The 21-year-old is bidding to add the Olympic gold to the French Open and Wimbledon titles he won recently and was in devastating form on Court Philippe Chatrier.

"I played at a very high level from the beginning to the end," said Alcaraz, who was sharper than in his quarterfinal win against Tommy Paul.

"One of my objectives at the beginning of the year was to win a gold medal and now we have this one match to try to get it and I am going to have fun."

**Ruthless:** Alcaraz dismantled Auger-Aliassime in quick time. GETTY IMAGES

**Swiatek claims bronze**

Iga Swiatek earned the consolation of a bronze medal as she outclassed Slovakia's Anna Karolina Schmiedlova 6-2, 6-1. By doing so, she became the first Polish player to win an Olympic medal in tennis.

Meanwhile on Thursday, Donna Vekic became Croatia's first-ever Olympic singles finalist when she thrashed Schmiedlova 6-4, 6-0.

Andy Murray's illustrious career came to an end as he and Dan Evans were beaten 6-2, 6-4 by the American pair Taylor Fritz and Tommy Paul in the men's doubles quarterfinals.

The former World No. 1 and three-time Grand Slam champion had won the Olympics singles in 2012 and 2016 and also claimed a mixed doubles silver medal in 2012.



Riner. AFP

# Riner wins a record fourth judo gold

**Agence France-Presse**
PARIS

Teddy Riner became the first judoka to win four Olympic gold medals after the Frenchman defeated South Korea's Kim Minjong in the heavyweight final on Friday.

The 35-year-old is just the second three-time individual Olympic gold medallist in judo history, emulating Japan's Tadahiro Nomura, who won in 1996, 2000 and 2004. Riner had won gold in the mixed team event in Tokyo.

# IOC and IBA justify their stands over boxer's gender issue

**Y.B. Sarangi**
PARIS

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the International Boxing Association (IBA) have tried to justify their own stands following the unwanted episode of Italian woman boxer Angela Carini withdrawing from her 66kg pre-quarterfinal bout with Imane Khelif after 46 seconds amid accusations of the Algerian being a "biological male."

The incident triggered international outrage and forced the IOC to issue a statement and defend the inclusion of Khelif.

The IBA, which has been suspended by the IOC for several irregularities, has advocated safety of the athletes and stood by its decision to disqualify the Algerian midway through the 2023 World championships in New Delhi.

The IOC, which conducted boxing competitions in the Tokyo Olympics through its Boxing Unit and is now doing the same here, said, "Every person has the right to practise sport without discrimination.

"All athletes participating in the boxing tournament of the Olympic Games Paris 2024 comply with the competition's eligibility and entry regulations, as well as all applicable medical regulations set by the Paris 2024 Boxing Unit (PBU).

"As with previous Olympic boxing competitions, the gender and age of the athletes are based on their passport."

It said these rules were applied during the qualifying events too.

The IOC stood firmly with Imane and the Taiwanese boxer Lin Yu-ting, saying the IBA decision to disqualify them was arbitrary.

"The two athletes have been competing in international boxing competitions for many years in the women's category, including Tokyo 2020, IBA World Championships and IBA-sanctioned tournaments.

Medals table

| | Country | G | S | B | T |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | China | 13 | 8 | 9 | 30 |
| 2 | France | 10 | 11 | 12 | 33 |
| 3 | Australia | 10 | 6 | 5 | 21 |
| 4 | USA | 9 | 18 | 15 | 42 |
| 5 | Great Britain | 9 | 10 | 8 | 27 |
| 6 | Japan | 8 | 3 | 6 | 17 |
| 7 | Korea | 7 | 5 | 4 | 16 |
| 8 | Italy | 5 | 8 | 4 | 17 |
| 9 | Netherlands | 4 | 2 | 2 | 8 |
| 10 | Canada | 3 | 2 | 6 | 11 |
| **44** | **India** | **0** | **0** | **3** | **3** |

"The current aggression against these two athletes is based entirely on this arbitrary decision, which was taken without any proper procedure."

The IBA, meanwhile, reaffirmed its position. "IBA remains committed to ensuring competitive fairness in all of our events, we absolutely condemn the inconsistencies in eligibility to compete in the boxing competition held in Paris 2024.

"To reiterate, both Imane Khelif and Lin Yu-ting post testing, did not meet the required eligibility criteria to compete within the female category of our respective events.

"The disqualification was based on two trustworthy tests conducted on both athletes in two independent laboratories (in Istanbul in 2022 and New Delhi in 2023)."

IBA pointed out that during the tests Lin and Imane 'did not undergo a testosterone examination' but were subject to a separate and recognized test. This test conclusively indicated that both athletes did not meet the required eligibility criteria and were found to have competitive advantages over other female competitors.

IBA said its decision to disqualify both is legally binding as Lin didn't appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) and Imane "withdrew the appeal."

# Spinners rule the day as Sri Lanka-India share honours

The home team scores 230 for eight, thanks to half-centuries from Nissanka and Wellalage; Rohit's men, going strong at 80 for one, lose their way; Hasaranga and Asalanka finish with three-fors

INDIA IN LANKA

**S. Dipak Ragav**
COLOMBO

If Sri Lanka squandered games from winning positions in the three-match T20I series, it was India's turn to make a mess of a relatively simple chase as the two sides played out a sensational tied encounter in the first ODI at the R. Premadasa Stadium here on Friday.

Chasing 231, the visitor needed just five runs off the last three overs with two wickets in hand. And when Shivam Dube (25) punched Charith Asalanka (three for 30) to the cover boundary off the third ball of the 48th, the game seemed done and dusted. But the Lankan skipper did not throw in the towel and managed to trap Dube and Arshdeep Singh leg-before off consecutive deliveries to salvage pride for his team.

On a tricky pitch that offered considerable assistance to the spinners, the Men in Blue got off to a flyer but lost their way as the Sri Lankan tweakers kept their side in the hunt, picking wickets at regular intervals.

Skipper Rohit Sharma (58, 47b, 7x4, 3x6) set the tone for the chase when he belted out some of his classics – effortless pulls, flicks and cuts – and sent the Sri Lankan pacers on a leather hunt in the PowerPlay. He did not hold back against the spinners either, cutting Dunith Wellalage for two boundaries and sweeping off-spinner Akila Dananjaya for a four and six over square-leg to bring up his half-century off just 33 balls.

**Clutch performance:** Wellalage followed up his unbeaten half-century with a two-wicket haul. AFP

However, left-arm spinner Wellalage (two for 39) gave his side an opening when he removed openers Shubman Gill and Rohit in successive overs. From 75 for no loss, India slumped to 87 for three when Dananjaya had Washington Sundar leg-before.

Wanindu Hasaranga (three for 58) then got the big scalp of Virat Kohli, trapped plumb in front, trying to play off the back foot. In the next over, Asitha Fernando castled Shreyas Iyer to leave India tottering at 132 for five.

K.L. Rahul (31) and Axar Patel (33) stitched a 57-run partnership for the sixth wicket to get the innings back on track.

Just when things looked in control, Hasaranga removed Rahul when he skied to short midwicket, while Asalanka had Axar caught behind. Dube almost saw India home, hitting two sixes, but failed to finish the job.

Earlier, half-centuries from opener Pathum Nissanka (56) and later Wellalage (67 n.o) helped the host post 230 for eight after opting to bat. Nissanka, who topped the run charts in the T20 series, carried his good form and looked positive in his approach. The 26-year-old played eye-catching shots off the front and backfoot against the quicks.

As was the case during the T20Is, Nissanka lacked support from the middle-order once the spinners took over and the home team looked in trouble at 101 for five. Fortunately for Sri Lanka, Wellalage rose to the occasion and played a composed knock, stitching three vital partnerships with the lower-order to help his side reach a fighting total. It was not enough to win, but it helped avoid an 11th straight defeat to India across formats.

**SCOREBOARD**

**SRI LANKA**

Pathum Nissanka lbw b Washington 56 *(75b, 9x4)*, Avishka Fernando c Arshdeep b Siraj 1 *(7b)*, Kusal Mendis lbw b Dube 14 *(31b, 1x4)*, Sadeera Samarawickrama c Gill b Axar 8 *(18b)*, Charith Asalanka c Rohit b Kuldeep 14 *(21b, 2x4)*, Janith Liyanage c Rohit b Axar 20 *(26b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Dunith Wellalage (not out) 67 *(65b, 7x4, 2x6)*, Wanindu Hasaranga c Axar b Arshdeep 24 *(35b, 1x4, 2x6)*, Akila Dananjaya c Washington b Arshdeep 17 *(21b, 2x4)*, Mohamed Shiraz (not out) 1 *(1b)*; Extras (lb-2, w-6): 8; Total (for eight wkts. in 50 overs): 230.

**FALL OF WICKETS**

1-7 (Avishka, 2.3 overs), 2-46 (Kusal Mendis, 13.1), 3-60 (Samarawickrama, 18.3), 4-91 (Asalanka, 23.5), 5-101 (Nissanka, 26.3) , 6-142 (Liyanage, 34.2), 7-178 (Hasaranga, 42.6), 8-224 (Dananjaya, 49.3).

**INDIA BOWLING**

Siraj 8-2-36-1, Arshdeep 8-0-47-2, Axar 10-0-33-2, Dube 4-0-19-1, Kuldeep 10-0-33-1, Washington 9-1-46-1, Gill 1-0-14-0.

**INDIA**

Rohit Sharma lbw b Wellalage 58 *(47b, 7x4, 3x6)*, Shubman Gill c Kusal Mendis b Wellalage 16 *(35b, 2x4)*, Virat Kohli lbw b Hasaranga 24 *(32b, 2x4)*, Washington Sundar lbw b Dananjaya 5 *(4b, 1x4)*, Shreyas Iyer b Asitha 23 *(23b, 4x4)*, K.L. Rahul c Wellalage b Hasaranga 31 *(43b, 2x4)*, Axar Patel c Kusal Mendis b Asalanka 33 *(57b, 2x4, 1x6)*, Shivam Dube lbw b Asalanka 25 *(24b, 1x4, 2x6)*, Kuldeep Yadav b Hasaranga 2 *(10b)*, Mohammed Siraj (not out) 5 *(11b)*, Arshdeep Singh lbw b Asalanka 0 *(1b)*; Extras (lb-4, w-4): 8; Total (in 47.5 overs): 230.

**FALL OF WICKETS**

1-75 (Gill, 12.4), 2-80 (Rohit, 14.2), 3-87 (Washington, 15.4), 4-130 (Kohli, 23.1), 5-132 (Shreyas, 24.2), 6-189 (Rahul, 39.4), 7-197 (Axar, 40.5), 8-211 (Kuldeep, 44.3), 9-230 (Dube, 47.4).

**SRI LANKA BOWLING**

Asitha 6-1-34-1, Shiraz 4-0-25-0, Wellalage 9-1-39-2, Dananjaya 10-0-40-1, Hasaranga 10-0-58-3, Asalanka 8.5-0-30-3.

**Toss:** Sri Lanka; **PoM:** Wellalage.

*Match tied.*

**Second ODI: August 4**, Colombo, 2.30 p.m. IST.

THE HINDU
AT THE GAMES
PHOTO CONTEST
THE HINDU GROUP
Winner of four gold medals in the 1936 Summer Olympics hosted by Nazi Germany, the first Adidas influencer, and a legendary act of victory in the Berlin Olympics in 1936 stand out as highlights of which Olympic athlete's career?
Scan QR code or visit newsth.live/THOPH to take the quiz. Top 3 winners* every day win gift vouchers.
Answer to yesterday's quiz: Johnny Weissmuller

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30th JUNE 2024

₹ in Crores

| Particulars | Quarter Ended 30th June 2024 | Quarter Ended 30th June 2023 |
|---|---|---|
| OPERATING PROFIT | 469 | 380 |
| NET PROFIT | 287 | 261 |
| NET INTEREST INCOME | 567 | 514 |
| NET INTEREST MARGIN % | 4.12 | 4.00 |
| BOOK VALUE (in ₹) | 520 | 454 |
| TOTAL DEPOSITS | 49,188 | 47,008 |
| TOTAL ADVANCES | 40,853 | 37,292 |
| CRAR % | 29.21 | 26.57 |
| RAM % | 92 | 90 |
| SMA % | 4.98 | 7.16 |
| NNPA % | 0.65 | 0.66 |
| GNPA % | 1.44 | 1.56 |

₹ in Crores

| Sl. No. | Particulars | Quarter Ended 30.06.2024 (Unaudited) | Quarter Ended 30.06.2023 (Unaudited) | Year Ended 31.03.2024 (Audited) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Total Income from Operations | 1514.87 | 1322.89 | 5492.85 |
| 2. | Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items) | 383.40 | 340.91 | 1393.58 |
| 3. | Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before Tax, (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items) | 383.40 | 340.91 | 1393.58 |
| 4. | Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after Tax, (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items) | 287.29 | 261.23 | 1072.03 |
| 5. | Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and other comprehensive Income (after tax) | NA | NA | NA |
| 6. | Equity Share Capital | 158.35 | 158.35 | 158.35 |
| 7. | Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve) as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet of the previous Year | 8085.96 | 7031.23 | 7762.85 |
| 8. | Earnings Per Share (of Rs.10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) 1. Basic: | *18.14 | *16.50 | 67.70 |
| | 2. Diluted: | *18.14 | *16.50 | 67.70 |

* Not annualised

NOTE:
1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Financial Results are available on the website of the Stock Exchange(s) (www.nseindia.com and www.bseindia.com) and on the Bank's Website (www.tmb.in)
2. Information relating to Total comprehensive income and other comprehensive income is not furnished as Ind AS is not yet made applicable to banks.

Our product offers to customers — TMB Royal Savings Account, TMB Premium Savings Account, TMB SUPER FLEXI Current Account, TMB Home Loan, TMB GST CREDIT, TMB msme CREDIT, and many more....

For and on behalf of the Directors of the Board
C. Chiranjeeviraj
Director / Chairman - ACB

Place : Thoothukudi
Date : 02.08.2024

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CIN : L65110TN1921PLC001908

# Simone Biles is back – as good as or even better than ever

The American gymnast lays the ghosts of Tokyo to rest, leads the United States to a team gold in Paris; at 27, she also becomes the oldest woman in 72 years to win an Olympic all-around gold

GYMNASTICS

**Agence France-Presse**
PARIS

Simone Biles, with two Paris Olympics gold medals and counting, has cemented her legacy as the greatest gymnast of all time – an athlete who transcends her sport in both triumph and defeat.

The diminutive dynamo dazzled at the 2016 Rio Games, winning gold in all-around, vault, floor exercise and team events.

She arrived at the pandemic-delayed Tokyo Olympics with superstar billing and history in her sights, but withdrew from most of events as she struggled with the disorienting and "petrifying" mental block that gymnasts call the "twisties".

**Jaw-dropping:** Biles has a tally of 39 world and Olympic medals, with 29 of them gold. AP

Hailed by many as a trailblazer for athletes' mental health but criticised by a few as a quitter, Biles has returned from a two-year hiatus, at the age of 27, as good as or even better than ever.

She has laid the ghosts of Tokyo to rest, leading the United States to a resounding team gold in Paris and following up by becoming, at 27, the oldest woman since 1952 to win Olympic all-around gold.

Biles shook off a disastrous uneven bars routine that had her trailing at the halfway point to edge Brazilian Rebeca Andrade for all-around gold on Thursday. She is the third woman to capture more than one Olympic all-around title and the first to do so in non-consecutive Olympics.

Biles now has six Olympic gold medals and nine medals in total. Her tally of world and Olympic medals is an incredible 39 – 29 of them gold.

### Must-see sensation

The American, who started that cache with her first all-around world title in 2013, when she was just 16, remains a must-see sensation.

Her competitions at Bercy Arena have drawn stars from Hollywood and billionaire entrepreneurs as well as legions of young girls thrilled to see their idol.

On Thursday, Biles suggested the glamorous turnout was a celebration of an Olympics freed of the Covid restrictions that made Tokyo a sterile affair.

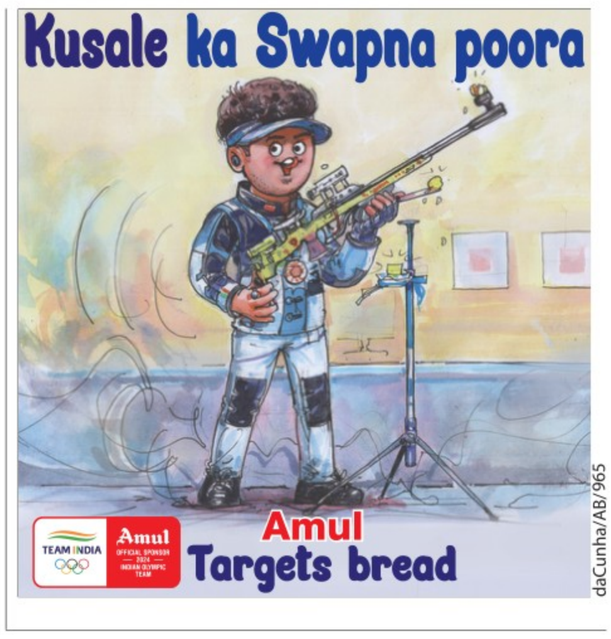
## Pole positions for Sarthak and Chiranth

MOTORSPORTS

**Sports Bureau**
CHENNAI

TVS Racing teammates Sarthak Chavan Pune and Chiranth Vishwanath expectedly snatched pole positions in the two premier Pro-Stock category to kick-start their campaign in the third round of the MRF MMSC FMSCI National motorcycle racing championships at the Madras International Circuit, here on Friday.

**The results (Qualifying - top 3 best laps): Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open:** 1. Sarthak Chavan (TVS Racing) (01min, 48.373secs); 2. Chiranth Vishwanath (TVS Racing) (01:48.477); 3. A. Alwin Sundar (KTM Gusto Racing) (01:49.598).
**Pro-Stock 165cc Open:** 1. Chiranth (01:52.676); 2. Sarthak (01:54.078); 3. Ahamed K.Y. (TVS Racing) (01:54.531).
**Stock 301-400cc (Novice):** 1. Kaushik Subbaiah Ganesan (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) (01:59.797); 2. Vysakh Sobhan (Speedup Racing) (02: 01.032); 3. Raj Kumar (RDX Torque Racing) (02:01.236).




daCunha/AB/965

## INBRIEF

### Carlo Ancelotti: "Real Madrid will be my final club"

Coach Carlo Ancelotti has said that he considers Real Madrid to be his final club. He expressed that he is currently not interested in coaching a national team because he would miss his favourite aspect of the job – working daily with players and staff. While speaking on John Obi-Mikel's podcast, Ancelotti said, "My idea is that Real Madrid will be my last club. At the moment I am not excited about coaching a national team because I would miss what I like most, the day-to-day work with the players and staff."

### 'Excellent climber' Yates joins Vingegaard at Visma

British cyclist Simon Yates, renowned for his climbing ability, will team up with two-time Tour de France winner Jonas Vingegaard next season at Visma-Lease a bike, the team announced on Friday. The 31-year-old, who won the 2018 Vuelta a Espana and is currently with the Jayco-AlUla team, has signed a two-year deal, and will provide valuable assistance to Vingegaard as he attempts to win a third Tour next season.

LIVE TELECAST

**Olympics 2024:** Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & JioCinema, 11 a.m. onwards
**Football:** Durand Cup, Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 3.30 & 7 p.m.

## BENGALURU ROUND-UP

### Amodini triumphs

Amodini Naik comfortably beat T. Sai Janvi 6-0, 6-1 in the singles final to win the ANT International's AITA tournament for women here on Friday.

**Triumphant:** Amodini with her reward. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

### Srujan's excellent batting helps President's XI take the first-innings lead

Srujan Nandan scored 122 and 57 n.o. as President's XI secured the first-innings lead over Tumkur Zone in a drawn KSCA SA Srinivasan U-23 Memorial tournament encounter.

**The scores:** President's XI 338/5 decl. in 79 overs (Srujan Nandan 122, S.H. Swaroop 135, Karan Umesh 56 n.o.) & 109/2 in 27 overs (Srujan Nandan 57 n.o., Karan Umesh 42) drew with Tumkur Zone 139 in 54.3 overs (K.C. Nithin Sai 28).

Mysore Zone 285 in 59.2 overs (S.U. Karthik 63, Likith S. Gowda 28, K. Gourav 34, S. Santhosh 3/34, Shravan S. Babu 4/44) & 205/6 in 47.2 overs (Likith S. Gowda 56, Kruthik Krishna 71, L. Manvanth Kumar 27 n.o., S. Santhosh 3/64) drew with Shivamogga Zone 258 in 64.1 overs (C.R. Kumarswamy 43, C.L. Yashwanth Gowda 27, J. Mohan Partha 57, K. Gourav 4/28).

Dharwad Zone 130 in 54.4 overs (Amod S. Kaluve 25, Madhava Dharwadkar 39, Amogh 3/26, S.M. Shamanth 3/34) & 113/3 in 43 overs (Amod S. Kaluve 27, Madhava Dharwadkar 35, Rohan M. Yareshmi 26 n.o.) drew with Bangalore Zone 231 in 75.5 overs (C. Sanjay Ashwin 48, Akshan Rao 38, P. Dhruv 49, Adarsh V. Hiremath 3/44).

Bangalore City XI 221 in 76.1 overs (N.A. Chinmay 68, K.N. Anish 36, Nathan D'Mello 3/32) drew with Mangalore Zone 139 in 53.3 overs (Hardik R. Suvarna 26, Nathan D'Mello 36 n.o., S. Chiranth 3/21, Paras Gurbax Arya 4/51).

### Talha and Shiva's ton highlight Swastic Union CC (2)'s facile win

Centuries from Talha Sheriff (105 n.o.) and R. Shiv (103 n.o.) helped Swastic Union CC (2) thrash BUCC (1) by 10 wickets in the KSCA (Group I) U-19 inter-club tournament.

**The scores:** BUCC (1) 222 in 47.2 overs (Pulkit Tiwari 31, Aarnav Verma 47, Siddarth Krishnamurthy 32, Shridhar Jagatap 3/36) lost to Swastic Union CC (2) 223 for no loss in 29.4 overs (Talha Sheriff 105 n.o., R. Shiv 103 n.o.).

Century Cricketers 298 in 49.4 overs (Aadesh D. Urs 31, B. Sai Akhilesh 34, Dhyaan Aithal 85, Shiv Pratap 83, Rayan Khan 4/62) bt Wilson Garden 69 in 16.1 overs (Gaurov Shanbhag 5/26).

Social Cricketers 304/6 in 50 overs (V. Lokaksha 81, H. Rithvik 122, M. Pranav 36 n.o.) bt Herons 141 in 42.5 overs (Aryan Inchal 48, Akshay A. Kamath 27, Tarun Desai 3/29, R.A. Sriee Praghajeeth 3/25).

Mount Joy 179 in 44.2 overs (Puneeth Yadhukumar 32, Tejas Mahendra Jituri 29, Guru Shreyas Prakash 33, Vaibhav Sharma 3/30, Samarth Kulkarni 4/28) lost to Vijaya, Malur 180/1 in 26.1 overs (S. Vajra 100 n.o., Harshil Arigala 60 n.o.).

Coles 213/8 in 50 overs (Siddhant Pathak 101 n.o., Milan Dhami 39, B. Krithin 5/39) bt Bangalore Occasionals 194 in 48.4 overs (A.B. Kushal Keshav 95, Ansh Aima 26, Saksham Agrawal 4/30).

Jawahar SC (1) 72 in 34.1 overs (Advaith Karthik 4/8) lost to Bangalore SC 76/2 in 5.1 overs (Vaasav Venkatesh 46).

Malleswaram Gymkhana 88 in 22 overs (T. Srivardhan 40 n.o., Samyak Vellalore 5/10) lost to Vultures 91/7 in 26.5 overs (K.P. Karthikeya 39 n.o., S.D. Nischal Gowda 3/21).

Swastic Union (1) 242 in 49.2 overs (Vrateen Prashant Padti 72, S. Abhirath 25, N. Preetham 27, Siddhanth Navale 33, N. Lochan Charan Reddy 4/55) bt Chintamani SA 130 in 34.2 overs (Arnav Sunderraman Iyer 37, R.V. Rohit 3/23).

### Deekshith does the 'trick as DYES-A swamps SWR

A.H. Deekshith scored a hat-trick as DYES-A defeated South Western Railway 8-3 in the Hockey Karnataka League championship on Friday.

**The results:** DYES-B 6 (Mourya Thimmaiah 4, 6, Prem Kumar 16, 49, Pranam Gowda 25, 41) bt Karnataka State Police 1 (B. Manikanta 9).

DYES-A 8 (Desh Poovaiah 4, M.K. Bharath 10, A.H. Deekshith 28, 42, 49, N.R. Ashik 29, M.T. Aryan Uthappa 33, C.J. Rahul 47) bt South Western Railway 3 (Veeranna G. Patil 24, 54, Jayavanth 37).

### MCHS BC and Mysore District take the honours

MCHS BC and Mysore District emerged the boys' and girls' champions respectively at the State sub-junior basketball championship that concluded in Bengaluru on Thursday.

While MCHS defeated PPC 72-36 in the final, Mysore overcame Young Orions BC 51-37. Mysore District among boys and Beagles BC among girls finished third.

The winners were awarded a cash prize of ₹25,000 while the runners-up took home ₹15,000 and third-place teams ₹10,000.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